INDIAN NEWSPAPER REPORTS, c1868-1942,

from the British Library, London

Part 8: Punjab 1896-1924; Sind 1936-1939; Burma 1938-1942; Bihar and Orissa 1920

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PUBLISHER'S NOTE

Indian Newspaper Reports, c1868-1942
Part 8: Punjab 1896-1924; Sind 1936-1939; Burma 1938-1942;
Bihar and Orissa 1920

Part 8 consists of newspaper reports for the Punjab 1896-1924; Sind 1936-1939; Burma 1938-1942; Bihar and Orissa 1920. The Indian Newspaper Reports from the Asia, Pacific and Africa Department at the British Library, constitute an important series to be found in the Record Department Papers of the Oriental and India Office Collections. The reports consist of abstracts of Anglo-Indian and Vernacular newspapers for the different regions of India.

Punjab

Introduction

After the First Anglo-Sikh War from 1845 to1846, the area of the Punjab between the Sutlej and Beas rivers and Kashmir were ceded to Britain. Some British troops were stationed in the Punjab to oversee the regency of Maharaja Dhalip Singh who was a minor and the Sikh army was reduced greatly in size. In 1848 unrest spread throughout the Punjab between the Sikh troops and the British which developed into the Second Anglo-Sikh War. This resulted in the annexation of the Punjab by the British East India Company in 1849 and the Punjab becoming a province of British India.

The geographical and political predominance of the Punjab made it one of Britain's most important assets with Lahore as a centre of learning and culture and Rawalpindi becoming an important centre for the British army.

At the beginning of the twentieth century the Punjab became a centre for anti-British sentiment and called for independence from Britain, culminating in the Indian National Congress proclaiming independence from Lahore in 1930. The All-India Muslim League grew stronger in this period and in 1940 the Lahore Resolution of the League to work for Pakistan made the Punjab a centre stage for the violence between the majority Muslims and the Hindu and Sikh minorities which was to result in the ultimate partition of the Punjab in 1947.

Punjab Newspaper Reports, 1896-1924

The reports were completed weekly and consist of typewritten abstracts of the contents of Native Newspapers published in the Punjab. The early reports contain a list of the newspapers looked at, divided into Urdu, Hindi and Gurmukhi. The place of publication is given and the circulation number. Hamdard-i-Hind for example in 1900 had a readership of 500 which had grown by 1903 to 3,300. The later reports are divided into English, Urdu, Persian and Gurmukhi.

Around 100 newspapers were looked at weekly giving a wide spectrum of opinion, including: *Arya Gazette*, *Jahan Numa*, *Kaisari Akhbar, Lahore Punch, Punjab*, *Punjab Theosophist*. The majority of the reports contain an extra section devoted to topical subjects such as the Punjab disturbances. These give extracts on the subject from extra-provincial newspapers in cities such as Calcutta and Viswamitra.

The earlier abstracts are divided into the following themes:

Political, Home and Abroad
General Administration
Kine Killing
Native States
Legislation

Later abstracts have additional themes of Education and Communal and Religious.

Topics are wide ranging, with much on the call for independence and the growth in popularity of Gandhi. Topics include:

- Famine
- The Congress movement
- Complaints against the police
- Cholera
- The situation in China, Russia, Turkey
- Native Press
- Zamindars
- Assaults by Europeans on Indians
- Visits by the Viceroy
- Punjab Alienation Bill
- Establishment of military colleges
- Railways – expansion, grievances
- Muhammedans and the National Congress
- Political prisoners in India
- All-India Muslim League
- Letter bombs

- Indian Press Act
- Indian students in England
- Hindu University
- Afghan campaign
- Rowlatt Act
- National Congress

Sind

Introduction

Karachi was the first part of Sind to be occupied by the British East India Company in 1839, and by 1843 all of the remaining parts (except for the state of Khairpur) were under the jurisdiction of the British. Sind was made part of the Bombay Presidency in 1847 and the British built railways, developed the postal service, constructed canals and opened up education to all.

Sind became a vociferous centre for freedom from British rule. In 1918 the Sind branch of the All-India Muslim League was established by Ghulam Muhammad Bhurgari and Abdullah Haroon was elected President in 1920. Muhammad Ali Jinnah, the prominent Muslim leader, was educated at the Sindh-Madarsat-ul-Islam in Karachi and later practiced law there.

In 1936 Sind became a separate province and after the partition of Pakistan and India in 1947 it regained its self rule.

Sind Newspaper reports, 1936-1939

The newspaper reports consist of typed monthly abstracts of Indian newspapers published in Sind for an important period in its history. Lists of newspapers are not given but the name of the paper and the issue referred to are given next to the abstract.

Newspapers consulted include: *Sind Observer*, *Public Opinion, Sind Sentinel, Sind Samachar, Karachi Daily, Daily Gazette*, *Maha Gujerat*.

The material is not divided into themes but all manner of subjects are covered including WW II, self government, foreign politics, the Native Press and Gandhi.

Topics include:

- All-India Muslim League
- Rejection of the Federation by Indian Princes
- Re-election of Subash Bose as President of the Indian National Congress
- Indians' attitude to Britain's involvement in World War II
- Partition of Palestine
- Cotton prices

- Abdication of Edward VI
- Withdrawal of Indian troops from Abyssinia
- Establishment of the Federal Court
- Pandit Jawaharlal's attacks on the Press Laws
- Gandhi's policy of non-violent boycotts
- Gandhi's faith in Dominion status for India
- Congress Party's success in the General Election of 1937

Burma

Introduction

After the Third Anglo-Burmese War Burma was made a province of India in 1886, with the capital at Rangoon. After the opening of the Suez Canal the demand for Burmese rice grew and much of the land was taken over for cultivation of the crop. The work was mostly carried out by indentured Indian labourers and whilst the Burmese economy grew all the power and wealth remained in British hands. The civil service and the army were staffed by Indians and the Anglo-Burmese community and there was much discontent among the Burmese.

By the beginning of the twentieth century the nationalist movement, Young Men's Buddhist Associations had begun to take shape and a new generation of Burmese leaders who had been educated abroad began to clamour for more autonomy for Burma. In the 1920's there were strikes by university students and anti-tax protests. This came to a head in 1930 when the Galon rebellion had to be put down by British troops and the Dobama Asiayone (We Burmans Association) was formed. A second university strike by students took place in 1936 which spread to Mandalay and led to the formation of the All Burma Students Union. The unrest culminated with Burma becoming a separately administered territory in 1937. In 1938 discontent in the oilfields of Burma turned into a general strike and in Rangoon and Mandalay protestors were killed by the British.

Ba Maw served as the first Prime Minister of Burma, but was succeeded by U Saw from 1939 until 1942 when he was arrested by the British for communicating with the Japanese.

The Communist Party of Burma was co-founded in 1939 by Aung San. When the Japanese invaded Bangkok in December 1941 Aung San announced the formation of the Burma Independence Army and hoped that the Japanese would rally to his side but instead they asked Ba Maw to form a government. He was declared head of state and his cabinet included Aung San as War Minister. In 1943 the Japanese declared Burma independent but this turned out to be a sham and in 1945 the Burma National Army rose up against the Japanese and Aung San began negotiations with the British which lead to the rout of the Japanese from Burma by May 1945.

Burma Newspaper Reports, 1938-1942

The newspaper reports are divided into weekly abstracts. The lists of newspapers consulted show a wide variety of opinions. Titles include: *New Mandalay Sun*, *Progress*, *New Light of Burma*, *Deedok*, *Sun*, *Daily Gujerati*, *Thakin Thadinsa*.

Most of the monthly reports begin with a very interesting general introduction which gives an overview of the week's news and the material is then divided into the following themes:

Political
Military
Educational
Communal
Economic
Miscellaneous

Topics covered include:

- Hunger strikes and political unrest
- Independence for Burma
- Immigration of Chinese and Indian workers
- WWII, the Japanese and Nazis
- Burmese Army
- Taxes
- Modernisation of agriculture and industry
- Reform of the education system
- Riots and demonstrations
- Coalition government
- Situation in Mandalay
- Strikes by oil-field workers and students in Rangoon
- Religious disturbances between Hindus and Muslims

Bihar and Orissa

Introduction

The territories of Bihar and Orissa were part of the Bengal Presidency, the largest British province in India until 1912 when they were separated from Bengal after a long local campaign forming the Province of Bihar and Orissa. The Province saw much support for the nationalist movement and for Gandhi. In 1936 the Province was divided into two: Bihar which included Bihar and Jharkhand and Orissa and the princely states.

Bihar and Orissa Newspaper Reports, 9-16 October 1920

Only two weeks of reports exist. They are divided into:

Foreign Politics
Native States
Home Administration
General
Miscellaneous

There is a separate section for Oriya Newspapers.

Topics included are:

- Police
- Working of the courts
- Jail sentences
- Education
- Railways
- Irish politics
- WW I

Liz Sargut
January 2009

TECHNICAL NOTE

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INDIAN NEWSPAPER REPORTS, c1868-1942
from the British Library, London

Part 8: Punjab 1896-1924; Sind 1936-1939; Burma 1938-1942; Bihar and Orissa 1920

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PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 4th January 1902.

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	Tri-weekly.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mál Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	Bi-weekly.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashíd ...	1,250 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Nardin Dás ...	300 "
	Weekly.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samáj, Anárkali ...	350 copies.
5	Khálsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 "
	URDU.			
	Daily.			
6	Akhbár-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahái ...	Between 2,000 & 3,000 copies.
7	Victoria Paper ...	Siálkot ...	Gián Chand ...	600 copies.
	Weekly.			
8	Ahlúwália Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rái ...	600 copies.
9	Alhakam ...	Kádián, Gurdáspur District.	Yakúb Ali ...	300 "
10	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Rám ...	200 "
11	Chaudhwín Sadi ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Saráj-ud-dín Ahmad ...	1,200 "
12	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiána ...	Ghulám Mohi-ud-dín ...	1,200 "
13	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	950 "
14	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Rám Labháya ...	300 "
15	Gham Khár-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Dáta Kishen ...	330 "

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1901—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
16	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	500 copies.
17	Hamdard-i-Khálsa ...	Amritsar ...	Suchet Singh ...	500 „
18	Kapurthala Akhbár ...	Kapurthala ...	Prág Naráin ...	185 „
19	Khair Kháh-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mír Hassan ...	100 „
20	Khair Kháh-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbár.	Do. ...	Maha Naráin ...	50 „
21	Koh-i-Núr ...	Lahore ...	Iláhi Bakhsh ...	116 „
22	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahmán ...	110 „
23	Núr Afshán ...	Ludhiána ...	M. Wylie ...	450 „
24	Paisa Akhbár ...	Lahore ...	Mahbúb 'Alam ...	13,000 „
25	Panja-i-Fulád ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Dín, Fauq ...	...
26	Patiála Akhbár ...	Patiála ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 copies.
27	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	650 „
28	Punjab ...	Do. ...	Ghulám Muhammad Akhtar.	200 „
29	Punjab Samáchár ...	Lahore ...	Pohlo Mal ...	3,500 copies.
30	Rafíq-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	1,000 „
31	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Dín Muhammad ...	300 „
32	Sádiq-ul-Akhbár ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddús ...	370 „
33	Sádiq-ul-Akhbár ...	Rewári ...	Hakím Sayid Maqbúl Husain.	...
34	Sat Dharm Parchárik ...	Jullundur City ...	Munshi Rám ...	800 copies.
35	Shamím-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Shiv Naráyan ...	300 „
36	Siálkot Paper ...	Siálkot ...	Todar Mal ...	650 copies.
37	Singh Sahái Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	200 „

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1901—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
38	Siráj-ul-Akhbár ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakír Muhammad	475 copies.
39	Táj-ul-Akhbár ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Jíwa Rám ...	300 „
40	Vakíl ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulám Ahmad, Mukhtár	1,100 „
41	Vakíl-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khán ...	700 „
42	Wafádár ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-dín ...	700 „
43	Watan ...	Do. ...	Karm Bakhsh ...	...
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
44	Ashraf-ul-Akhbár ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Mirza Khán	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
45	Anwár-ul-Islám ...	Siálkot ...	Karím Bakhsh ...	1,800 copies.
	MONTHLY.			
46	Aror Bans Parkásh ...	Lahore ...	Sálig Rám ...	50 copies.
47	Arya Musáfir Magazine ...	Jullundur ...	Munshi Rám ...	700 „
48	Bhárat Pertáp ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayál, Sharma	500
49	Jia Lál Parkásh ...	Farukhnagar (Gurgaon)	...	...
50	Kakkezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Dín ...	...
51	Sanátan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Gopi Náth ...	1,000 copies.
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
52	Panjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lál Man ...	229 copies.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 1.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 4th January 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Boer War.

1. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 21st December 1901, remarks that although the deplorable Transvaal War has entered on its third year and has cost the combatants heavily in both men and money, there is no immediate prospect of its coming to an end. Lord Kitchener's proclamation calling on the burghers to surrender by the 15th October last on pain of having their property confiscated has led to no good result. The Editor adds that it is owing to this war that martial law has had to be proclaimed in an old Crown Colony like the Cape—a proceeding by the way, which has given offence even to the loyalists in the Colony. He then praises the patience with which the people of Great Britain have been watching the progress of the struggle, and says that the King-Emperor is reported to have expressed a desire that hostilities should be brought to a close before his coronation. It is not improbable, observes the Editor, that it is with the object of complying with His Majesty's wishes that large reinforcements are being sent to South Africa.

The doings of the Allied Forces in China.

2. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 20th December 1901, remarks that, so far as education, arts and material progress are concerned, Europeans and Americans are decidedly far ahead of Indians. The Editor is, however, of opinion that in spite of their being more highly civilized they are wanting in elementary notions of humanity. As an instance in point, he refers to the atrocities committed by the Allied Forces in China, and says that European civilization has been weighed and found wanting. He adds that it is useless abusing soldiers for plundering the Chinese and committing other acts of devilry, when some of the Christian Missionaries, nay, even European ladies,

are also said to have participated in the loot. In conclusion, he remarks that after this, Europeans should not call natives half-civilized, seeing that, so far as humane sentiments are concerned, they themselves are semi-savages in comparison to the people of this country.

The Hedjáz Railway.

3. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 23rd December 1901, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	6,935	4	4
1. Received through Wazírzáda Muhammad Khán, Inspector of Police, Fort Sandeman		239	9	0
2. Received from the Lami-ul-Núr Press, Agra		4	0	0
Total	...	7,178	13	4

(b)—Home.

The North-West Frontier Province.

4. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 30th December 1901, says that the addresses presented to Colonel Deane during his recent tour show clearly enough that the inhabitants of the frontier districts approve of the formation of the North-West Frontier Province. After quoting extracts from the address from the residents of Bannu in support of his assertion, the Editor remarks that the address in question acclaims the appointment of the Colonel as the first Chief Commissioner of the Province. It also expresses the belief that that officer will suppress lawlessness in that part of the country and encourage education among the people committed to his charge.

Government and Musalmáns.

5. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 21st December 1901, publishes a communication from one Imám Bakhsh (of Bajwára) residing in Kasmayo (?), Africa, who says that a certain German Count has recently expressed the opinion that as soon as the Russians invade India the Muhammadans of this country will throw the British Government overboard and cast in their lot with the invaders. The writer takes exception to this assertion, and observes that no well-informed person can share the Count's opinion. He then refers to certain historical occurrences to show that Russia is the inveterate enemy of Islám and its followers, and that consequently there is no love lost between the Muscovites and Musalmáns. In contrast to this is the treatment accorded to the Muhammadans of India by the British Government. The correspondent makes bold to say that under the present *régime* his co-religionists enjoy greater freedom and higher privileges than they did even under the

rule of Musalmán Kings. Indeed, but for the advent of British rule, the Sikhs and the Maharattas would have exterminated the Prophet's followers in this country. It is, therefore, wrong to say that the Muhammadans of India can ever turn traitor to their present rulers.

Wanted a Vernacular for the Punjab.

6. In the course of an article headed "Wanted a Vernacular" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st December 1901, makes the following remarks :—

"It is a very hopeful sign for the Punjáb that, though Urdu is not the mother-tongue of the Punjábis, this Vernacular is more zealously cultivated here than in North-Western Provinces and Oudh, its home. This fact shows that Punjábis are awakening to the want of a good Vernacular literature in this Province. Without a Vernacular literature permanent progress in any direction is impossible. We need not repeat what we have said before on this topic. No thinking Punjábi can have the hardihood to deny that unless there are a sufficient number of Vernacular books, at least on subjects of what we may call every day necessity, the people will remain where they are. Without the help of Vernacular books Female Education must remain an empty dream. It is through the Vernacular alone that a feeling of nationality can be evoked and fostered. It is through the Vernacular alone that the masses can be reached. No movement, social, religious or industrial, can have any hope of producing an abiding impression unless it is conducted in the Vernacular. A people without a Vernacular literature is like a locomotive engine without steam. 'Practical' people of course see no use for poetry or romance in the concerns of life. But, thank Heaven, everybody is not practical in this sense. The dreams of poets, the visions of seers, are the silver lining to the dark fleeting clouds of our existence. By neglecting our mother-tongue we deprive ourselves of the only thing that makes life worth living. * * * * * *

"As we have pointed out before, in spite of the inextricable confusion of Vernaculars in the Punjab, the tangle is not so complicated as to be impossible of being unravelled. The issue is practically between Urdu and Punjábi. * *

"If literature were to be taken as an index to the feelings of the cream of the community, all that our country has been going through, and all that our country has to go through still, has not stirred a single Punjábi to the extent of impelling him to pour out his soul to his countrymen in words that breathe and thoughts that burn. Not a single Punjábi has essayed to present to his countrymen 'truth severe in fairy fiction dressed.' What we say is that if any one has anything worth saying to say let him not waste time in arguing out in his mind the respective merits of Punjábi, Hindi, Urdu, &c. Let him just sit down and write away in the language in which he can express himself with the greatest facility, *even if it be Babu English*. Let him not stop to think what his Hindi-wála or Urdu-wála or Gurmukhi-wála friends will say. Let him use the characters which, if we may so put it, come natural to him. If our humble advice is acted upon, we have no doubt that we shall have a reproduction in the Punjab of the wonderful literary activity that marked the *Banga Darshen* epoch in Bengal."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

7. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 20th December 1901, publishes a communication in which the writer approves of the action of Government in sending a deputation to Kabul to condole with Habíbulla Khán on the death of the late Amír. He, however, adds that Government has committed a great mistake in this connection, and that is the omission to send a few selected European officers with the deputation. He is of opinion that had one or two such officers been also sent to Kabul, the deputation would have been of a far more influential character, while the new Amir would have considered it more becoming his dignity. This was the more necessary, as it is rumoured that the Muscovite Government has also sent a similar deputation to Kabul, and that the same consists of highly placed and selected Russian officers. There can be no doubt, observes the correspondent, that Habíbulla Khán would have felt much more flattered and honoured at the visit of such a deputation than at that of the one actually sent, which consisted only of Muhammadan Extra Assistant Commissioners.

The deputation to Kabul in connection with the late Amir's death.

8. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 30th December 1901, says that a Bannu newspaper, after referring to the operations in Wazíristán of the columns under General Denning and Colonel Hogg, reports that at present the troops are at Dera Shankar and that the Wazírís are afraid of fighting with them. The same paper understands that Mullah Powindah has returned to his home through the Gomal Pass, and that he has a string of 30,000 camels with him. It also reports that a party of nine armed Mahsúds has entered British territory, and warns the people concerned to be one their guard against the brigands. The Editor then reproduces from the newspaper in question two paragraphs regarding the commission of a robbery and a murder in the Bannu *iláka* during the month of December. He adds that the aforesaid journal alleges that on the 25th November last the Tájbeg Khel Bhattís warned the Deputy Inspector of Police, Ahmadzai, and Sergeant Ramzán Khán that they would avenge themselves on these officials or on Subedár Sayad Husain, and this is how the incident arose. The Subedár arrested some Dargárás on a charge of supplying cloth to the Mahsúds; and as an outcome of the prosecution, the Assistant Commissioner, Bannu, forbade the Dargárás to purchase cloth, &c., in British territory until further orders. In the meanwhile, however, the Bhattís threatened to wreak vengeance on the Thánedár of Ahmadzai, whereupon the latter "challaned" one Malki, son of Nazar Shah, under Section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code. This had the effect of throwing the Tájbeg Khel Bhattís into a rage and induced them to raid the Ahmadzai Police Post, with the object of avenging themselves on the Thánedár (*vide* paragraph 5 of the Selections No. 51 of 1901). It may be added that several Mahsúds were also among the raiders.

Frontier Affairs.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

9. The *Panjáb Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, publishes a communication from one Kartár Singh, of Kesargarh, Kasúr, who says that the other day a Muhammadan butcher of Kasúr was caught selling beef openly in the bazár.

The arrest of a butcher at Kasúr for selling beef openly in the bazár.

He was sent up for trial by the Police and has been released on bail for Rs. 50. The writer has full confidence in the impartiality of the Sub-Divisional Officer, and trusts that in the event of the charge being proved the accused will be punished in an exemplary manner. He also advises the local Muhammadans to abstain from raising subscriptions to help the butcher, thus straining the relations between them and their Hindu fellow-townsmen. Otherwise, he adds, "we" also shall have to act on the following couplet of Sádi:—

"Dost thou not see that when the cat is driven to bay
It plucks out the tiger's eyes with its claws."

Kine-slaughter and the prevalence of epidemics in India.

10. The *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 23rd December 1901, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that the epidemical diseases, which at present have India in their grip, were unknown in former times, and that their comparatively recent appearance in the country is due to kine-slaughter and the use of night-soil as manure. He is of opinion that were these practices put a stop to, cholera, plague, &c., would at once depart from the land. Again, the prohibition of kine-slaughter would cheapen *ghi* and increase the number of plough cattle, which last would serve as a preventive against famines. The correspondent, therefore, expresses the hope that Government will favourably consider the suggestion, as the adoption thereof is calculated to prove beneficial to crores of human beings.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The National Congress.

11. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 27th December 1901, remarks that the National Congress has again awakened into activity after the lapse of a year. It is scarcely necessary to add that it begins to rub its eyes on the 1st of every December, is wide awake on the 13th and goes to sleep again for another year a week later. The Editor then goes on to say that for sometime past the complaint has been general that the Congress had failed to accomplish its objects, and that it had achieved nothing practical. At first the Congressionists tried to pooh pooh the complaints by imputing motives of bad faith to those who made them, but now they themselves have joined in the cry. Accordingly they have arranged to hold an industrial exhibition in connection with the coming session of the Congress. Certain students of Calcutta have also given a rupee each towards the funds of the Congress with the object of showing to the world that the entire Indian nation sympathises with the movement. Such shows, however, cannot throw a veil over the real state of affairs. It is a fact, observes the Editor, that natives have not the spirit to endure hardships in the attainment of great ends. He is, therefore, of opinion that so long as this spirit is wanting the establishment of even ten thousand Congresses cannot ameliorate the condition of the country.

The same.

12. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 20th December 1901, after remarking that the Congress has taken a deep root in the country, publishes a summary of the resolutions to be considered in its Calcutta Session, and remarks that no opponent of the movement, including Anglo-Indian newspapers, can take exception to any of them. The Editor then goes on to say that the Congress leaders

will do well to direct their energies to the development of indigenous arts and industries and to the endeavour to find markets for native products. He adds that if they succeed in doing so, they will have proved to the world that they are true patriots and earnest workers.

The Nadwat-ul-Ulema,

13. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 10th December 1901, publishes a communication from one Abdul Karim, who, writing about the last session of the Nadwat-ul-Ulema, says that that body can never succeed in gaining the objects it has in view. After giving an account (in the course of which the scriptures of non-Muhammadan religions are referred to as dead and graceless books) of how the Prophet had made a great nation of his followers, the writer observes that the fall of Musalmáns from their lofty religious and moral ideals was accompanied by frightful changes in the temporal power wielded by them. The Aligarh politicians and the Nadwat-ul-Ulema are now endeavouring to restore their co-religionists to the position formerly occupied by them. It may, however, be enquired if either of these parties possesses the means whereby it can compel or induce the followers of Islám to resume their old ways of life. The correspondent then goes on to say that the degradation of Muhammadans has exceeded all bounds, and that the habits of pleasure, drinking, gambling and idleness, which characterised them during the Prophet's time, have again appeared among them. The Educational Conference has no doubt Europeanised them to a certain extent, but this cannot make them a nation as they were made by Muhammad. Indeed, it is an egregious mistake to set up as a model for them a people or peoples (the reference is to Christian nations of Europe) whose thoughts are of the earth earthy, whose energies are confined to materialistic pleasures and sensuality (*lit.* lusts of the womb and vagina), and who, although professing to move on a higher plane, are content to believe in the Godhood of a dead man. After remarking that those who take part in the deliberations of the Educational Conference lack spirituality, the writer endeavours to show that the Nadwat-ul-Ulema can never realize its expectations. As an instance in point, he says that it is one of the objects of the Nadwat to refute falsehoods—albeit in a mild manner and without raising disturbances. It is, however, extremely doubtful if that body will ever be able to gain this end. The correspondent adds that the greatest falsehood of the day is the belief whereby crores of human beings regard Christ as God. Nor is this all. The greatest possible zeal for the spread of this belief in the world prevails among Christians (*lit.* the worshippers of man). This wickedness of Christ worship is, therefore, the greatest evil of the day, as it has undermined the foundation of piety and righteousness, or, in other words, of Islám. And the root of this evil is the belief regarding Christ having ascended to heaven bodily. To lay the axe to this root, observes the writer, and to prove Christ to have died for good is tantamount to breathing a new spirit into the Muhammadan religion. He then enquires if the Nadwat-ul-Ulema or any member of it is aware that the worshippers of Christ, or the dead, have written more than six crores of pamphlets and books in depreciation of Islám and its founder, and that these black lies have found their way even into the apartments of virgins and given rise to a universal commotion. After asking if the Nadwa is prepared to crush the head of this venomous snake, he says that another

object of that publication is to spread Islám in foreign countries. He would, however, like to know if it will preach the Islám of Sir Sayad Ahmad Khán (which has reduced God to a mere figure-head, does not believe in revelation, angels, prophecies, &c., and has proved the Qorán to be an uninteresting book), that of the Ahl-i-Hadí's (who deny that any one in the Islámic fold can work miracles), or that of Sajjáda-nashins, Fakírs and Sufis (who, in spite of believing Muhammad to have been the last of the Prophets, have invented thousands of Prophets to bow to). The correspondent then goes on to say that the evils, of which the founder of the Muslim faith had purged his followers, having re-appeared among them, only a man of the Prophet's powers can remedy the present state of affairs. He adds that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad being an incarnation of Muhammad, he alone is in a position to accomplish the object which the Nadwa has set before itself. He therefore calls upon the said Association and other Musalmán societies to listen to the Mirza and examine his claims in a careful manner.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad of Kádián.

14. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, publishes a communication in which the writer comments on the notice issued by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and the *Alhakam*'s remarks thereon (*vide* paragraph 18, Selections No 50 of 1901), and says that the gist of the two writings is that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and his followers are the only loyal subjects of Government, and that the remaining population, at least the Musalmán community, is ill-disposed towards the British throne. The Mirza insinuates that his denunciation of *jehád*s is the real reason of the opposition offered to him by his co-religionists. The correspondent knows that Government takes no notice of such hypocritical and mischievous writings; that it can see through every self-seeker clearly enough; and that it is fully aware that, having failed to overcome opposition by other means, Ghulám Ahmad has begun to brand his opponents as disloyal. Nevertheless, he (the writer) would humbly request it to examine the notice in question in a very careful manner, and, inasmuch as the Mirza is in the habit of wounding the feelings of other Musalmáns for nothing, cause some inquiries to be made into his pretensions. He adds that the following points should be elucidated in the course of these inquiries:—

(1) What parts of the books written by the Mirza are taken up with a condemnation of *jehád*s, and how much space is devoted to obscene attacks on non-Islámic (*lit.* other) religions, especially Christanity and its followers?

(2) Whose writings against the waging of *jehád*s are more numerous—the Mirza's or his opponents?

(3) Is it a fact that the *'Ijáz-ul-Masih* has been written to denounce *jehád*s?

(4) Has the Mirza any influence with those ignorant and savage tribes which believe in *jehád*s, and why does he not go and preach to them?

(5) Whether more questions relating to (the waging of) *jehád*s have risen since the Mirza has proclaimed himself a prophet than they did during the same period at some former time.

(6) Do the writings of Muslimans against the Mirza contain any mention of *jehâds* or approval thereof?

(7) Does the circulation of the *Alhakam* exceed 150 or 200? How many copies of each publication of the Mirza are printed? How many of these are distributed *gratis*, and how many remain as dead stock? Again, how many are sent abroad and to whom?

(8) Has (the leader of) any other Muhammadan sect a weekly newspaper of his own, and does he wound the feelings of those differing with him (*lit.* of one another)? Again, does he at times liken himself to the Prophet, and at others to Christ, &c.?

(9) Have not opposing sects called each other irreligious before this, and used the strongest possible language towards each other? Nay, do they not do so still?

15. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 17th December 1901, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 14 of the Selections No. 49 of 1901), alleges that on the morning of the 18th November last Mirza Ghulám Ahmad pressed Mr. D. D. Dickson to stay at Kádián for a few days more, saying that he wished to explain to that gentleman the nature of the spiritual philosophy of Islám which had become unknown during the present age, but which it had pleased God to reveal to him. On the stranger expressing his inability to comply with the Mirza's request, the latter addressed a few remarks to him. In the course of these the "Prophet" of Kádián declared that he wished to teach mankind what God was, and show it the way to salvation. He added that the only way to eschew sin was to believe that there is a God, and that he both punishes and rewards. After remarking that God had appointed him to impress this truth on his fellow-men, Mirza Ghulám Ahmad ridiculed the idea that the blood of anybody could wash away the sins of others. He said that the doctrine of vicarious punishment had affected the moral and spiritual condition of the Christian nations of Europe in a most deplorable manner. As an instance in point, he observed that these followers of Christ consumed immense quantities of wine, and that they not only did not abstain from looking with lustful eyes at strange women, but also brought other members of their bodies into play. After stating that the evil was not confined to Christians, the Mirza remarked that pure life, which could only be led by avoiding sin, was a brilliant gem possessed by nobody. He, however, added that God had granted *him* that gem, and had appointed him to teach mankind how to secure the same. He further remarked that everyone could possess himself of the said gem by treading in the path pointed out by him (the Mirza).

The same.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

16. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 19th December 1901, says that while out on tours during the cold weather, executive officers should not hear cases, but should attend to the work for which tours are meant. The existing arrangements entail great inconvenience on the old, the needy

The hearing of cases during tours.

and women. Nor is this all. Should a plaintiff fails to put in an appearance on the date fixed he is certain to lose his case. Again, if an accused person enlarged on bail is prevented through inclement weather from surrendering to his bail the amount of the bail is forfeited at once. Moreover, during winter parties to cases have to carry with them bedding for their witnesses. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the above-mentioned officers should hold court only at their head-quarters. Should this be impracticable, they should only hear cases pertaining to the *ilákás* through which they are touring.

A proposal to locate the Office and Court of the Sessions Judge of Shahpur at Khusháb.

17. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a Supplement of the 20th December 1901, remarks that there being no suitable building at Shahpur in which to locate the Sessions Court and Office, it is proposed that for the present certain bungalows at Khusháb belonging to the Railway Department should be rented for the purpose, and that the proposal should be put into effect from January 1902. The Editor has received several communications deprecating the proposed arrangements and requesting him to bring the matter to the notice of the authorities. His correspondents, he adds, allege that Khusháb cannot afford sufficient accommodation for legal practitioners, litigants and the officials of the proposed Sessions Court and Office. Again, drinking water is very scarce in the town, while there being very few trees in the place litigants will find very little shelter from heat during summer. Indeed, it was for these reasons that the holding of the Munsif's Court at Khusháb for one month in the year was discontinued. It may also be mentioned here that the people from Jhang will experience great inconvenience in travelling to Khusháb for the purpose of conducting their cases. The Editor then remarks that all these drawbacks are absent in Bhera, and the proposed Sessions Court and Office should be located there.

Want of a licensed stamp-vendor at Montgomery.

18. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 19th December 1901, suggets that there being no licensed stamp-vendor at Montgomery, some Muharrir in the local Post Office should be given the requisite license. The Editor adds that the adoption of the suggestion would be for the convenience of the public.

A complaint against an Honorary Magistrate at Kasúr.

19. The *Panjáb Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, publishes a cummunication from one Kartár Singh of Kesargarh, Kasúr, who alleges that on the 15th idem a young Honorary Magistrate at Kasúr handled his pistol so carelessly as to wound a respectable Muhammadan gentleman. The matter seems to have been settled out of court, apparently, as the wound did not prove fatal. The writer is, however, of opinion that official notice should be taken of the Magistrate's conduct.

(b)—Police.

The Indian Police.

20. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th December 1901, remarks that if Police Officers are really desirous of preventing their subordinates from injuring innocent persons through personal enmity, they should make it a point of

carefully examining the Police case diaries. They should see if there are sufficient grounds for arresting persons and whether the accused have been arrested by the Police of their own motion or at the instance of the complainant. In the former case it should be ascertained that no enmity exists between the investigating officials and the accused, and that the latter have not been arrested simply to bring them into disgrace. The Editor then suggests that should the said officials fail to explain any point satisfactorily they should not only be reprimanded, but the persons wrongly arrested should be allowed to prosecute them. He has no doubt that the adoption of this suggestion would improve the morale of the Police service.

Increase of theft cases at Rámnagar, Gujránwála District.

21. A correspondent writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 23rd December 1901, complains that of late theft has been on the increase at Rámnagar in the Gujránwála District. He adds that it is generally complained that the present strength of the local Police is quite insufficient for the requirements of a big town like Rámnagar. The Editor then urges the Municipality to employ some Sánsís as Chaukídárs or make some other arrangements to put an end to the evil complained of.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague in the Kasúr *iláka*.

22. One Kartár Singh of Kesargarh, Kasúr, writing to the *Panjáb Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, says that the bubonic plague has become general in Mauza Luliáni. Accordingly the Sub-Divisional Officer and the Tahsíldár are making unusual efforts to improve the sanitation of other villages in the *iláka*. It is, however, to be regretted that very little attention is paid to the sanitation of Kasúr itself, where also the epidemic has made its appearance. The writer then suggests that all communications between the town and Luliáni should be stopped.

A useful lecture on plague.

23. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 21st December 1901, says that ever since the appearance of the bubonic plague in Mauza Luliáni the authorities at Lahore have been most anxious to prevent the epidemic spreading to Lahore. The Deputy Commissioner has, after consultation with the local Municipal Commissioners and other respectable residents of the city, been making the necessary arrangements to avert the calamity. In accordance with the plague regulations recently issued by the Punjab Government, Ward Committees have also been formed with the object of co-operating with the authorities in the work of prevention. After publishing a summary of the said regulations, the Editor remarks that apparently there is nothing objectionable in the rules, although in the event of the plague breaking out in Lahore some difficulty is certain to be felt in enforcing the same. He then goes on to say that the first meeting of the Anárkali Ward Committee was convened in the Town Hall on the 11th December by Lála Ganpat Rái, Barrister-at-Law, the local public being also invited to the gathering. Lála Bhagat Rám, Sahni, Chief Medical Officer, Jammu, who was at Lahore at the time, and has, during the past two years, gained considerable knowledge of the disease, was requested to lay his

experiences before the Committee. He was kind enough to accede to the request and delivered a very interesting lecture on the subject of combating the bubonic plague. In the course of his remarks the lecturer stated that so far as was known at present the plague did not break out anywhere of itself, but was invariably imported from infected places. He, therefore, advised the residents of such places not to leave their homes and carry the epidemic to other towns. He also exhorted the people not to allow persons from plague-stricken localities to migrate to places free from the disease. The speaker further remarked that the body and clothes of a plague patient being the seat of contagion, care should be taken to avoid touching them. He next informed the audience that the epidemic gains in virulence in damp houses and during the cold weather, and that it was therefore advisable to keep our houses and bodies warm. Lála Bhagat Rám added that it was his experience that the plague bacilli in an infected house could be destroyed by making large fires in it. He was also of opinion that fresh air deprives the bacilli of their activity, and remarked that the same should be allowed free passage into houses attacked by the disease. In short, observes the Editor, the lecture was a very instructive and interesting one, and would prove of great help in preventing the spread of the plague if it were printed in Urdu and distributed broad cast among the people.

The plague bacilli.

24. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, publishes a communication from the Sectional Plague Officer, Umarkhári, Bombay, who says that a number of inquiries on the subject of plague have reached him from the Punjab and the United Provinces. Being, however, unable to write to his correspondents individually, he has decided to publish a general reply in the *Akhbár*. He then goes on to say that the plague bacilli can enter the body through the slightest cut, prick or wound in the skin. He adds that as the poor have to do hard manual labour and in the majority of cases go about unshod and scantily dressed, the skin of their bodies is always full of scratches and cuts, and that consequently they are most liable to attacks of plague, especially as not a few of them sleep on the bare ground, where the bacilli are more numerous than anywhere else. After remarking that the foregoing statements have been verified by both observation and experiment, the writer observes that plague pneumonia is the result of the absorption of the microbes through inhalation, and that the air exhaled by patients suffering from this disease is very dangerous to breathe in, as explained in his pamphlet entitled *Dáfi Tán'n*. He further states that the entry of the germs into the body through food brings on plague dyssentery.

How to combat plague.

25. Doctor Kanwar Jawála Parshád of the Mominabad Dispensary, Deccan, writing to the *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 28th December 1901, says that the insanitary condition of Indian towns and cities is the chief cause of the appearance of the plague in the country. Of the remaining causes he would merely refer to the use of unwholesome food and impure water by the people. He adds that on the outbreak of the disease in a place the residents thereof should at once evacuate their houses and take up their quarters outside the *abádi*.

They should also bathe daily and keep their tenements and bodies in a perfectly cleanly condition, the use of antiseptics being freely resorted to. In conclusion, he remarks that the use of olive oil, both externally and internally, has also been found useful.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad on the plague.

26. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 24th December 1901, publishes a notice over the signature of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, who says that epidemics like the bubonic plague appear on the earth only when men indulge in sinful practices, become disloyal to their rulers, refuse to accept an Imám sent by God and institute cases against him. He then remarks that the only effectual remedy for the plague is weeping before the Almighty and rendering implicit obedience to our rulers. He also enumerates the advantages which British rule has conferred on natives, and says that the people of this country should always remain loyal and obedient to their present Government. In conclusion, he calls upon the people to cleanse their hearts, give alms, eschew sin, and keep their houses in a cleanly state, as the best way to escape being attacked by plague.

Reversion of Captain Elliott to the post of 2nd Grade Assistant Commissioner.

27. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 18th December 1901, says that it has been pained to read in the *Observer* that Captain Elliott, late Deputy Commissioner of Gujrát, has, by order of Government, been made an Assistant Commissioner of the 2nd Grade. The only reason alleged for this punishment is that in a certain case the Captain had passed orders which were considered illegal by the Chief Court. If this is so, the Editor would request Government to reconsider its decision regarding the late Deputy Commissioner of Gujrát. In the first place, he adds, no Judicial Officer can claim infallibility for his orders, and it is, therefore, hardly fair to punish a Magistrate simply because some of his orders are set aside by a higher Court. In the next place, Captain Elliott is an excellent executive officer, and as Deputy Commissioner of Gujrát and Siálkot displayed rare administrative powers. Indeed, the residents of the said districts—high as well as low—still remember his name with feelings of gratitude. Again, he is a son of Sir Charles Elliott, a late Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, who rendered conspicuous services to Government and who was a sincere well-wisher of Government. The Editor adds that it is the opinion of the public that the orders passed by the Government respecting the Captain should be reconsidered.

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 2.]

SELECTIONS

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SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 3rd January 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	7,178	13	4
Syad Hassan, of Serai Parsrai, Patna District	5	0	0
Total ...	7,183	13	4

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd January 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	309	2	0
1. Received through Shekh Abdul Razáq of Bhadaur	8	7	6
2. Malik Khán, Veterinary Assistant, Tánk	1	0	0
3. Received through Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Samad, Mutwalli, Aided School, Darbhanga	12	0	0
4. Received through Syad Sajjád Husain, Vakíl, Bára Banki ...	15	0	0
5. Received through Háfiz Ahmad Islám, a pupil of Hakím Qiám-ud-dín Ahmad Khán of Delhi ...	38	0	0
6. Received through Munshi Niáz Ahmad of Delhi	35	0	0
7. Received through Syad Abdul Razáq, Hyderabad (Deccan) ...	5	15	0
Total ...	424	8	6
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	1,072	3	0
Grand Total ...	1,496	11	6

(b)—Home.

3. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th January 1902, writing about the proposal to hold an Imperial Assemblage at Delhi in connection with the King Emperor's Coronation, remarks as follows :—

The coming Imperial Assemblage at Delhi.

"No show or ceremonial, however imposing, will make up for the absence of royalty on the occasion in the popular mind. The Prince of Wales ought to be asked to pay a flying visit to India, even if it entailed considerable personal inconvenience and disturbance of the programme of home engagements. The season in Upper India is very enjoyable in the month in which the function will take place. Besides, His Royal Highness has been to all parts of his future dominions but India, and the British Empire beyond the seas, *minus* India, is like the play of Hamlet with Hamlet's part left out! It is the sober fact, no patriotic exaggeration on our part. Australia is about twice the size of India and the same may be said of Canada. But the population of Australia and Canada combined is less than that of the least of the dozen Provinces of India! An Indian lascar, after being proudly shown the Thames River by a Londoner, contemptuously exclaimed :—'There be larger *snakes* in our Indian jungles!' As a matter of fact, a passing glimpse of India, even as it is under the shadow of famine and pestilence, will give a better idea of the extent and resources of the world Empire of Britain than a minute inspection of all the other component parts of it put together. The joy and enthusiasm created in India by a royal visit at the time of the Coronation would surely be worth all the trouble and upsetting of home arrangements that the journey will entail."

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd January 1902, regrets that Musalmán Ráises have not displayed any great enthusiasm in connection with the Imperial Cadet Corps. The Editor is aware that the number of Muhammadan States in the country is very small; but cannot they produce even 20 or 25 Princes and sons of Ráises to learn their hereditary profession of a soldier and secure high posts in the Army? He adds that of the 57 Cadets, whose names have recently been published, only 3 are Musalmáns.

The Imperial Cadet Corps and Muhammadans.

5. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th January 1902, remarks that in other Provinces of India members of the local Legislative Councils are appointed by election. These parts of the country also enjoy the privilege of electing University Fellows. The concession is, however, withheld from the Punjab, and the Editor would like to know how long this tate of affairs is likelyto last.

The Punjab and the elective principle.

III.—Native States.

6. The *Ahlúwáhia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st January 1902, alleges that the appointment of Major Ghulám Jiláni as Tahsíldár of Phagwára is regarded by the residents of his tahsíl in the light of a punish ment. The Editor adds that some time back he disapproved of this appointment and referred to the Major's

A complaint against the Tahsíldár of Phagwára in the Kapurthala State.

antecedents (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 28 of 1901). Had the Rája, he adds, profited by the warning, he would have had no occasion to revert to the subject. He then goes on to say that Ghulám Jiláni is a mere puppet in the hands of his subordinates, who are having everything their own way. Indeed, those working under a corrupt officer usually surpass him in the matter of taking bribes. It may be added that one of the Major's Ahlkárs is the virtual Tahsíldár and is lining his pockets with gold at a rapid rate. Again, it is he who writes judgments for his Chief, albeit he is assisted by another hand in this work. Indeed, only recently this officer was reported to have caused the death of a chaprási (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 50 of 1901). It is true that judicial enquiries held into the matter have exonerated Major Ghulám Jiláni from all blame, still a reliable correspondent has communicated to the Editor the name of the man who is said to have caused the death of the deceased. The letter cannot, however, be made public until the allegations in it have been verified.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Indian Congress Committee.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th January 1902, reproduces from the *Amrita Bazár Patrika* a paragraph in which that paper controverts the view that the Indian Congress Committee, although its members were not re-elected at the last session of the Congress, has not ceased to exist. It further remarks that the result of the failure to re-appoint the Committee is that "the Congress leaves nothing behind it to remind the people of its existence or to keep up the continuity of Congress work in India." Commenting on this the Editor remarks as follows:—

"If the situation is correctly represented by the *Patrika*, it means that the Indian Congress Committee which—barring its collecting Secretary Mr. Nundy—has been practically an intangible body, will now be practically non-existent. It is probably a sense of over-modesty on the part of the members of the body that has led them not to go through the farce of a re-election, having so poor an account to give of their work. We do not believe a fresh election of the Committee would have enhanced its usefulness, for the same men would have been elected, there being none others to offer their services, or as a matter of fact better able to command confidence. They are undoubtedly the pick of Congressmen. The Indian Congress Committee was formed two years ago with the express purpose of having systematic work carried on in India. At the end of two years it is found that for all the work the Committee has done there need be no further election of a Committee at all. Why then try to stop the chances of what little work may be carried on in England through the agency of a British Committee and its organ in the British Press?"

Pandit Gopi Nath on the morality of natives.

8. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 1st January 1902, publishes the introduction to the sketches which Pandit Gopi Nath intends writing for it under the heading "Chú-Chú ká Murabba" hotchpotch *jam*. The Pandit states that the series will contain accounts of what has befallen himself, as well as certain other

persons, and will reflect the various phases of "humanity" and "bestiality." It will be a biography, a novel and a mystery rolled into one,—a decanter containing every variety of wine. It may be added that the series will contain nothing but facts, and that only the names of persons and places described will be disguised. And this for the reason that Gopi Nath's object in publishing the sketches is, not to praise or depreciate any body, but to present to the public a few of the diverse characters to be met with in society. His readers, therefore, should also confine themselves to this aspect of the question and never try to ascertain real names, which will on no account be divulged. He then goes on to say that the sketches will be of persons differing greatly in character and having nothing in common with one another. In this connection he wishes to mention that of the men he has so far come into contact with, some are extremely pious, while some are blackguards of different degrees. Again, whilst some have never touched intoxicants, others cannot do without wine for the shortest space of time. Others again have never so much as looked after strange women, whereas some have hardly passed a day or night without being in the company of such women, nay have carried on intrigues with their female relations or seduced married women. It may be added that some appear to be, and have the reputation of being, good men, but that in private they behave in an extremely reprehensible manner. Again, some have had a regard for the world's opinion while indulging in devilries, whilst others have cast all sense of shame to the winds. In short, the series will contain portraits of men of different views, occupations, &c., including ruling Chiefs, officials of Native States, Pleaders, Barristers-at-Law, Government servants of all grades, Traders, Darbáris, Raises and their sons, Leaders of native society, Municipal Commissioners, Editors, Munsifs and Honorary Magistrates. It may be added that the writer will chiefly concern himself with Natives and that there will be only incidental references to European gentlemen.

The same.

9. Referring to the coming sketches, the Editor expresses the hope that they will prove entertaining reading and please all tastes. He adds that he has compelled his younger brother, who has seen a great deal of the world and has for a long time past done no work for the *Akhbár-i-'Am*, to leave aside other occupations and amuse himself by writing the said sketches. He cannot, however, say at present how the jam will be relished, seeing that it resembles sauce and will be at once sweet, sour and salt to taste, nay will also have gold and silver leaves mixed in it. The readers of the *Akhbár* should not, therefore, gulp it down, but should eat the same slowly and in a leisurely fashion, lingering over the taste thereof. They should, besides, let the Editor know how they relish the jam, so that the ingredients may be mixed so as to be agreeable to all.

Europe and Islám.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd December 1901, publishes a communication from one Abdul Ali Khán, who says that Europe has, for a long time past, been producing books in which Islám is sought to be represented to the residents of that Continent in repulsive colours. The question of *jehád* has been specially dealt with in this spirit, and the books bearing on it paint the Muhammadan religion in very dark colours indeed. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction

that Europe can now boast of impartial and learned writers, who have studied the Prophet's faith in a very candid manner and are repudiating the unfounded charges preferred against it. The correspondent then publishes a translation of an article from the pen of a French writer, who endeavours to show that Islám treats non-Muhammadans in a more generous spirit than any other religion does those who do not follow its own teachings. The article also refutes the charges preferred against the Muslim faith in connection with the doctrine of *jehád*.

(b)—Police.

Embezzlement in the Amritsar Treasury.

11. The Editor of the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), in its issue of the 1st January 1902, writing about the Amritsar Treasury defalcation, says that he can privately give the Deputy Commissioner a list of persons who were in the habit of gambling with Panna Lál. The Deputy Commissioner should seize the Bahís of these worthies and examine the entries pertaining to the past three months. It is possible, adds the Editor, that some currency notes may be traced in some of the Account books. He further remarks that he stipulates to supply the said list privately merely to avoid being caught in the meshes of Law. He concludes by remarking that it is not improbable that the adoption of his suggestion may lead to good results and secure for him a reward.

Counterfeiting coins at Amritsár.

12. The same paper after remarking that the shops of several goldsmiths and shroffs money-changers) of Amritsar have from time to time been searched on suspicion of counterfeiting coins, alleges that certain respectable residents of the city have formed a gang and are now manufacturing counterfeit coins. It may be added that they have realized thousands of rupees in profits, and are carrying on the trade in an open manner. The Editor then remarks that want of work and the cheapness of silver is at the bottom of the evil, and exhorts the people to earn their livelihood by honest means.

Dakaity in the Sayadpur and Hasola villages, Jhelum District.

13. The *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), dated 2nd January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that several cases of dakaity have taken place in the Sayadpur and Hasola villages, Jhelum District. Property worth hundreds of rupees is said to have been looted and the Police are making the necessary enquiries. The writer then remarks that such occurrences are always due to negligence on the part of chaukídárs. This state of affairs, he alleges, has induced the residents of several villages to employ private chaukídárs, but even this arrangement has proved unsatisfactory, as these chaukídárs keep watch only till midnight. In these circumstances, it is very necessary that village chaukídárs should be warned to perform their duties in a more thorough manner. They should be required to be always at their posts and should wake the residents of their respective beats two or three times during the night. The correspondent feels certain that if his suggestions were adopted, dakaity would become unknown in villages.

Badmáshes in the new Frontier Province.

14. A correspondent writing to the *Táj-ul-Akhbár* (Rawalpindi), of the 4th January 1902, says that the severance of the Frontier Districts from the Punjab has exercised a deterrent effect on the *badmáshes* residing in them. As an instance in point, he states that while formerly crimes of sorts were committed daily in Peshawar, since the formation of the new Province the local roughs have given up their nefarious practices. Some of them, he adds, have opened shops, while others have betaken themselves from the city. The writer further remarks that Colonel Deane, who is a vigilant officer, has impressed the people favourably and won their affection and confidence.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

Mr. Gardiner's confirmation in the appointment of Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

15. The *Akhúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st January 1902, says that Mr. Gardiner was appointed Secretary to the Local Municipal Committee on probation for six months. During this period he twice went on sick leave and performed the duties of his post only for about three months. As to the manner in which he performed his official work several notes have already appeared in the *Gazette*. Strangely enough, however, at a special meeting of the Committee held on the 23rd December last, the President proposed that Mr. Gardiner's period of probation having expired and his work during this period having been satisfactory he should be confirmed in the post of Municipal Secretary. Two members sitting at the right and left respectively of the President supported the proposal, while the rest of their colleagues kept silent and the proposal was therefore carried. It may be added that certain Municipal Commissioners are of opinion that as they did not vote, the motion cannot be said to have been adopted. After remarking that they are labouring under a mistake and that their silence was tantamount to their approval, the Editor says that Mr. Gardiner is thoroughly unpopular with the entire population of Amritsar, including Municipal employés. He further remarks that that gentleman has done nothing to deserve his confirmation, and takes the Local Municipal Commissioners to task for supporting the President's proposal. In conclusion, he says that in giving assent to the Municipality's decision, the Commissioner of the Lahore Division seems to have ignored public opinion.

(d)—Education.

The proposed Gurukul.

16. The Editor of the *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), in its issue of the 3rd January 1902, says that the announcement that the proposed Gurukul is to be opened near Hardwár during the coming Holi (*vide* paragraph 27 of the Selections No. 47 of 1901) has revived the Aryás' enthusiasm for the project, and that of late he has been receiving several letters on the subject daily. He adds that the institution is to be located away from the centre of Samájic activity in the Punjab with the object of inducing the Aryás to make extraordinary sacrifices for the same. He then expresses the belief that the Rs. 2,000 required in connection with the opening ceremony of the College will be in the hands of the Pritinidhi Sabha by the end of the current month. He wishes

to mention here that the spirit, in which the various Samájes have begun to work in the matter, bears testimony to the fact that the Arya Samáj is the only body in India which shows signs of life. After remarking that a large gathering is expected at Hardwár on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Gurukul, the Editor calls upon the Aryás to look after the comfort of the visitors and do their best to make the occasion a success. He adds that the day will be a memorable one, not only in the history of the Samáj and India, but also in that of the world. In conclusion, he exhorts his co-religionists to gird up their loins in order to make the institution a flourishing concern.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 3rd January 1902, remarks that if the train, which at present leaves Siálkot for Wazírabad at 4-55 P. M., were timed to start from the former station at 3-30 P. M., the change would prove very convenient to passengers for Lahore. They would then be able to catch the train which leaves Wazírabad at about 5 P. M. and reaches Lahore at 8 in the evening. The Editor, therefore, invites the attention of the Manager, North-Western Railway to the matter, and calls upon that Officer to lay the travelling public under a debt of gratitude by ordering the suggested change.

The Siálkot-Wazírabad line and passengers for Lahore.

18. The same Paper, of the 6th and 7th January 1902, remarks that the Mail which used to reach Siálkot at 7-30 P. M. before the 1st instant now reaches there at 8-30 at night. The result of this is that, contrary to the former practice, letters are kept over for delivery till next morning and reach the people 12 hours late. As this is a source of inconvenience and loss to the local public, the Editor suggests that the mail train should run faster and reach Siálkot earlier. He, therefore, invites the attention of the Manager, North-Western Railway, to the matter, and calls upon him to remove the evil complained of.

A suggestion to increase the speed of the evening Mail to Siálkot.

(g)—Postal Matters.

19. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 20th December 1901, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that letters, &c., for Bhangala, Sujánpur, &c., from the Pathánkot side are detained at Gurdáspur 22 hours and for the same length of time at Mukerián. The writer adds that if the mails left Gurdáspur at 4 A. M., crossed the Beas at 7 and reached Mukerián between 8 and 9, the complaint would be put an end to, for in that case letters, &c., for Bhangala would be sorted at Mukerián and would reach their destination much earlier.

A postal complaint.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

20. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 9th January 1902, says that the sight of the late Queen Empress' statue recently unveiled at Lahore produced a feeling of disappointment in the minds of the native gentlemen assembled at Charing Cross on the 1st instant. Outwardly they were full of admira-

The late Queen Empress' statue at Lahore.

tion for the statue, but their real thoughts were of quite a different nature. They looked at one another and smiled as if to enquire what was meant by erecting such a thing. Indeed, the statue in question being of a black colour does not become the original, and is scarcely recognizable by those who have seen thousands of portraits of the dead Queen. After remarking that the face and hands of the statue should be painted white, the writer says that the pedestal on which it is placed, being too high, the head looks very small and out of proportion to the body. He would, therefore, suggest the pulling down of the pedestal with the object of removing this defect. He further suggests that the statue should be fenced round, that sentries should be appointed to watch the same, and that at least four good lanterns should be lit round it at night.

The same.

21. Another correspondent, writing to the same Paper, makes similar remarks, and says that not a few natives present at the unveiling ceremony called the statue by such names as Káli Devi, Kálka, &c. He then regrets that, although the money required for the likeness was subscribed by the people, no native Rája should have been consulted as to what kind of statue should be sent for.

Captain Elliott's reversion to the post of Assistant Commissioner.

22. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th January 1902, endorses the *Observer's* remarks that Captain Elliott's transfer from Gujrát is not liked by the local public. Indeed, the admirers of the Captain are right in thinking that he did a great deal in suppressing heinous crime in the Gujrát District. The Editor, therefore, feels confident that Government will reconsider its orders regarding the reversion of the said Officer to the post of Assistant Commissioner.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—17-1-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 3.]

SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[No. 8.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 18th January 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th January 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	7,183	13	4
1. Received through Munshi Abdul Azíz, Merchant, Báns Mandi, Cawnpur ...	138	6	0
2. Munshi Abdul Wahab, a servant of Chaudhri Tálib Ali, Karsi Tahsíl, Bara Banki District ...	4	14	0
Total ...	7,327	1	4

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	424	8	6
1. Received through Hakím Abdul Razáq, Páil ...	5	8	0
Total ...	430	0	6
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,502	3	6

The same.

3. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 11th January 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	906	15	3
1. Muhammad Mu'ni-ud-dín, Hospital Assistant, Chandoli, Benáres District ...	5	0	0
2. Muhammad Raza Khán, Kapasan	0	8	0
3. Dr. Munír-ud-dín, Nayagáon, Bundhel Khund ...	3	0	0
4. Received through Masbah-ud-dín	7	0	0
5. Munshi Núr-ul-Hasan ...	2	0	0
6. Received through Dárogha Madar Ali and Munshi Zakar Husain, Kotah ...	15	0	0
7. Abdul Ghani, Teacher, Sahansarai School, Amritsar District ...	0	8	0
8. Ghazanfar Husain Khán, Jaunpore	5	0	0
9. Azíz-ud-dín, Náib Sharistadár, Dilwáli, Alwar ...	7	8	0
10. Niáz Muhammad, Sub-Overseer, Tájawála *viâ* Jagádhri. ...	2	0	0
11. Received through Bábu Shere Muhammad, Clerk, Mooltan ...	4	4	0
12. Received through Badar-ud-dín Ahmad, Head Clerk, Jhara Tea Estate, Jalpaiguri District ...	7	0	0
13. Bábu Karím Bakhsh, Treasurer, M. K. Railway, Pegu ...	5	0	0
14. Niáz Ali, Ráwalpindi ...	15	0	0
15. Abdul Latíf, Mauza Khorka, Purnea District ...	50	0	0
16. Sheikh Sa'adulla, Jalalabad, Farrukhabad District ...	12	12	0
17. Jamadár Mián Ján Khán, Kœhanda, Sambalpur District ...	4	8	0
18. Sayad Abdul Qádir, Gujarat, Deccan ...	15	0	0
Total ...	1,065	15	3

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

An Afridi raid into the Pesháwar District.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th January 1902, after referring to the recent Afridi raid on Mauzas Nowedah and Abdarah, each of which is only one mile distant from Pesháwar, remarks that the incident shows that Government's policy in disarming the residents of the Pesháwar Districts was premature. If, adds the Editor, turbulent and armed frontier tribes continue to commit such raids, the authorities will have to reconsider the above policy and allow the British subjects concerned to keep arms.

III.—Native States.

Complaint against the Superintendent, Simla Hill States.

5. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 11th January 1902, remarks that none can escape the vicissitudes of fortune, and that the Khashatriyas, who at one time ruled the world, now own allegiance to foreigners. He then goes on to say that although the feudatory Chiefs in India are considered the right hand of Government, and represented to be in the enjoyment of full and uncontrolled ruling powers, they are mere puppets in the hands of Political Agents, and those daring to complain of their lot fall victims to intrigues on the part of the said officials. The correspondent has learnt from a reliable source that the Deputy Commissioner of Simla, being displeased with the Rája of Biláspur, that ruler is being treated in a very improper manner. Indeed, matters have come to such a pass that he has not the power even to dismiss a servant of his. The Deputy Commissioner, it is alleged, ranges himself on the side of any one whom the Rája may wish to dismiss the service. The writer further remarks that the Jubbal State, of which the ruler is a minor, is in a deplorable condition. The (Dowager) Ráni has more than once represented to the Deputy Commissioner that indebtedness is proving the ruin of the State, that the public treasury is empty, and that large sums of money have been embezzled. She has also frequently requested that officer to make inquiries into the matter, but nothing has so far come of it. In conclusion, the Correspondent promises to write something later on about the treatment accorded by the Commissioner of Jullundur to the States in his Division.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Kine-slaughter in India.

6. The following is published by the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 7th January 1902 :—

"*An open Letter to Lord Curzon from Mother India on behalf of her Children.*

"May it Please Your Excellency,

"It is with an extremely aching heart, in the interests of my children, that I see every day the bovine species fast disappearing from India, and it is with an earnest hope that I approach Your Excellency with an humble appeal for their protection and preservation as well as the improvement and propagation of their breed.

"The cows and oxen are of such vital importance to your Indian subjects that I am sure my accredited spokesmen, the India National Congress, would have long ago petitioned the British Government for something being done to prevent their gradual, though rapid and persistent destruction, but for an unfortunate sectarian aspect which the question has assumed through a short-sighted disagreement and quarrel among some of my children. It is therefore that I now take the liberty of inviting Your Excellency's attention to this one of the most important questions concerning the welfare of the Indian subjects of His Most Gracious Majesty the Emperor through the Press. The climatic and other exigencies of the Indians render *ghi* or butter, milk, curds, &c., not only the most desirable but almost indispensable, articles of diet for them, while their agricultural requirements make a cheap and plentiful supply of good cows and oxen a *sine qua non* for their very existence. The ancient Aryans, who are believed to have come to India from the cold climate near the Arctic regions, were not improbably beef-eaters, but they were wise and far-sighted enough to see that while the flesh of the cow was not a necessity in India as an article of diet, even if not actually harmful on account of its climatic peculiarities, the preservation and propagation of the bovine species was quite indispensable for the welfare of India in other respects. So they decided on the interdiction of beef as food, prohibited the slaughter of the cow, and inculcated the preservation and increase of the breed as a religious duty, as was usual with them in everything which concerned the welfare of their society.

"The Muhammadan conquerors of India did not prohibit the destruction of the cow, but it is a fact that among the masses of my children belonging to that religion, who are mostly agriculturists especially in Upper India, the distruction of a cow or ox is universally condemned. That most of them are, or at least until lately were, cattle rearers as a class and loved their cows and oxen just as they do their own children is quite well known. There are only a few of the poorest class among them, living in the towns mostly, who have since of late taken to the use of beef as an article of diet. It is, however, notorious that in the shambles which minister to the taste or the necessity of this class of people only the old and useless cattle are generally destroyed. These slaughter-houses therefore do not harm India economically so much as the Commissariat shambles or butcher-houses *where only the young, and almost invariably female, calves* are destroyed in such large numbers every day for the dietary of the British army. The harmful effects of this regular destruction of the females of the bovine species on the economical condition of the Indians in general and of the agricultural community in particular have been considerably aggravated by the enormous increase of cultivation and the decrease of pasturage consequent on this as well as on the conservation of forests on a grand and systematic scale since the advent of the English *Rdj*. The gradual disappearance of the Indian industries have forced the bulk of the people to look to agriculture mainly as a means of support. The increase of population has also caused a greater demand for culturable land, while the beneficent provision of extended means of artificial irrigation has given a very great impetus to the reclamation of jungles and waste lands for purposes of cultivation. This has naturally told adversely on the rearing of cattle, and consequently

[illegible] a much reduced production of cows and oxen. They have become very dear, and the agriculturist's need for them not seldom compels him to run deep into debt. In ancient India a fixed proportion of all village lands was preserved under the State regulations as pasturage. This not only permitted of cattle rearing on a considerable scale, but also allowed a renovation of soil by a periodical turning of the agricultural land into jungle and *vice versâ*. This salutary provision was neglected and forgotten in the anarchy and misrule of ages that followed the destruction of Hindu supremacy, and seems never to have suggested itself to the benevolent officers of the British Government. It may be difficult now to provide such regular pasturages in the vicinity of every village, but in the interests of the short-sighted people themselves it seems to be extremely necessary that Government should do something to encourage the repletion of the bovine stock which is being so perceptibly exhausted every day. It is not denied that meat diet is a necessity for the imported European soldier, and a more frequent supply of mutton, which at present is served perhaps two days in a week, is probably a financial difficulty, mutton being more costly than beef. It is also perhaps on account of a financial difficulty that the exclusion of all cows from the shambles is not insisted upon. The short-sighted agriculturist attaches more value to a male calf, which he can immediately use as plough or draught cattle, than to the female calf, which, though sure to be a perennial source of calves, promises less present advantage. He therefore more readily and more cheaply parts with a female calf in favour of the Commissariat beef agent.

"But the Government is far-sighted. It is conducted by statesmen endowed with great prescience. They should not fail to see that the present state of things is fraught with far-reaching evil consequences to the agricultural economy of the country, and should provide against them.

"It passes my comprehension that a Government which displays such solicitude for birds and beasts of game and for fish as to provide close seasons, regulate the meshes of nets, and take other precautions to prohibit the wanton destruction of fish and fowl, should be so unmindful of such a vital necessity of the Empire and not prohibit the slaughter of female calves in its shambles and direct a larger substitution of mutton for beef in its Commissariat arrangements.

"I appeal to Your Excellency in the fervent hope that you will still more signalize your already brilliant administration by doing something for the most useful bovine species of India, by at least preventing the slaughter in the Commissariat shambles of female calves, which is not allowed even in Europe or America, and by taking such other measures for the preservation, increase and improvement of the breed as may appear to Your Excellency reasonable and practicable. I am sure that Your Excellency, who forewent the pleasure of a shoot in the Girnars for fear of the breed of the tigers there becoming extinct, will not think it too much to attend to my prayer. I appeal not on religious or sentimental, but solely on economical, grounds and shall, I hope, be not refused a hearing. By doing something in this behalf you will

not only place me and my children under "a debt of immense endless gratitude," but also leave a certain evidence of your far-sighted and broad statesmanship for the admiration of posterity and as an example worthy of imitation by your successors.

"HIND."

NATIVE SOCEITIES AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

The Indian Congress Committee.

7. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of 14th January 1902:—

"The formation of the Indian Congress Committee was a result of the suggestions made by the late lamented Bakhshi Jaishi Rám regarding a constitution for the Congress, which his practical and earnest mind long ago saw the necessity of having. It must be some consolation, therefore, to the Punjábís that the Punjábi delegates at the last Congress exerted their utmost to have the work of the Committee kept going and improved, if possible. We quoted in a recent issue a passage from the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* complaining of the conduct of the gentlemen in charge of the Congress business in refusing to elect a fresh Indian Congress Committee for the current year. It appears from later accounts published in the same paper that there was quite a tussle over this matter. The Punjab delegates, headed by Mr. Harkishen Lál, rightly warned the leaders that if such high-handed proceedings were carried on, it might lead to serious misunderstandings and splits. As yet we find nowhere any explanation why the gentlemen at the head of the Congress, such as Messrs. Mehta, Wacha, and W. C. Bonnerji, were anxious to put an end to the Indian Committee, but it appears that much indignation was caused among leading delegates from the different Provinces by the way in which the President Mr. Wacha tried to shelve the matter. According to one account, written evidently by an eye-witness, we find that an informal meeting was held by the majority of the old members of the Committee, at which Mr. Surendranáth Bannerji, who attended as a sort of representative of Mr. Wacha, was asked to convey to that gentleman how bitterly they felt his conduct and that of some of his friends in the matter, which they believed to be altogether arbitrary and unjustifiable. No reply to this message is said to have been received. This certainly looks odd, and some explanation of the situation should be forthcoming."

The Nadwat-ul-Ulema.

8. One Núr Ahmed, Teacher, Municipal Board School, Ambala, writing to the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), dated 8th January 1902, remarks that Muhammadans have fallen so low that they do not hesitate to array themselves even against their benefactors. The late Sir Syad Ahmed Khán was a sincere well-wisher of his co-religionists and did his best for them. But all the reward that the Ulemas could give him was to issue a *fatwa* declaring him a *káfir*. The Nadwat-ul Ulema has also met the same fate, the Ulemas of Mecca and Medina having, at the instance of their *confréres* in India, pronounced it to be an irreligious body. The charge, adds the writer, on which the *fatwa* is based is that the *Nadwa* does not suppress heresy, although there is nothing to show that the said association encourages heresy, albeit it promotes union

between the Shiás and the Sunnís. He then deprecates the conduct of Arab Ulemas in issuing *fatwas* without hearing both sides of a question, and says that either these worthies do not wish to see Islám flourish in India or all wisdom and prudence have left them for good. He further remarks that such pronouncements do more harm than good to the followers of Islám inasmuch as they create still further divisions in their ranks. The writer concludes by exhorting Muhammadans to be tolerant towards one another and work shoulder to shoulder for the common good and advancement of their community.

Religious toleration under British rule.

9. The *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), of the 15th October 1901 (received on the 17th January 1902), remarks that the natives of India have now a rare opportunity of distinguishing true from false religions and that they have to thank Government for this. The Editor observes that the facilities offered by the present *régime* for the spread of Islám were out of the reach even of former *kings*. It is significant, he adds, that the Muhammadans can preach their religion in the streets of London in a way which would not be tolerated even in Mecca. He then goes on to say that British rule has not only conferred religious liberty on the people, but has also raised them from the state of savages to that of civilized beings. It is true that the present times afford little scope for spiritual development, but the blame for this does not lie at the door of Government.

The Muhammadan religion.

10. The *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), of the 1st November 1901 (received on the 17th January 1902), says that Islám is the only religion from God and points out the most direct way to Him. Again, it was for opposing it that Satan was driven from Paradise, and Pharoah and his army perished by drowning. The Prophet's faith has, moreover, proved the ruin of makers and worshippers of idols, while the fire of hell was kindled for those who deny it. It may be added that it is this religion which has put out the fires of fire-worshippers and banished the Christian as well as the Hindu trinity from the world. It has also induced Hindús (*lit.* heathens) to take to *pardah*, to abandon *niyog*, and to dislike looking at the *linga* and *jalehri* (emblems of the male and the female organ of generation). Again, it has weaned Hindu youths from their antiquated notions and induced them to don European clothes and eat with Englishmen. They pay no heed to the teachings of the Vedas, while those of Islám have exercised such an influence on them that they have begun to hate idolatry and to represent that the Vedas teach the unity of God. Indeed, some time back a few Hindús gave out that these books were the fountain-head of monotheism, which, however, is not true. It may be added that this falsehood was uttered with the sole object of preventing people from embracing the Muhammadan religion. There can be no doubt that for a while this falsehood produced the desired result; but on the fraud being exposed, seekers after truth again began to enter the Islámic fold and would have nothing to do with Hindúism—a mirage. In order to stem this tide several Hindús wrote books attacking the Prophet's faith, but to no purpose. Munshi Indarman of Moradabad and Pandit Dyánand, the founder of the Arya Samáj, hailed the writings of the Revd. Mr. Fender and improved on them; but with no better result. The Editor then goes on to say that the fact that the perusal of a single book—the

Fahfit-al-Hind—has induced Hindús to throw idol worship overboard and discard *angia* (bodice), *lahnga* (petticoat) and *dhoti*, makes him feel confident that, if the superiority of Islám and the worthlessness of the Vedas were impressed on their minds a little more persistently, the remaining dirt of heathenism that still clings to them would also be cleansed away. He, however, regrets that those who are interested in the matter lack the means to accomplish the end, while those who possess such means are wholly indifferent to the spread of their faith. To make matters worse, certain enemies of Islám are writing books and making speeches against it, while ignorance fills their heads to such an extent that they look upon themselves as Platos of their time and declare that reason has no place in the Muhammadan religion. The Editor observes that this is not a fact, and promises to resume his remarks at some future time.

Islám, Christianity and Aryaism.

11. The same Paper observes that with the advance of knowledge fraud and hypocrisy are also on the increase and that great obstacles are being thrown in the way of seekers after truth. The study of philosophy, adds the Editor, unaccompanied by that of theology is exercising a baneful influence on the educated and inclining them towards atheism. He then praises Government for preparing the minds of natives for sifting truth from falsehood, and says that the printing press, which has brought to light books once unknown to the world at large, is calculated to render material help in the accomplishment of the task. As an instance in point, he says that the publication of the Vedas has shown that they are a bundle of stories invented by fools and mediocres. He also wishes to mention here that the opening of communication between the different countries of the world is also certain to facilitate the search after truth. He then goes on to say that of the three great religions—Aryaism, Christianity and Islám—professed in India, the last named alone is from the Almighty. He adds that the God of the Aryas is devoid of every attribute which the Creator of the Universe should possess, while according to the false teachings of the Vedas he is utterly without mercy. As for the God of Christianity, he was arrested in a manner which reflects disgrace on him, while his prayers during the night following his arrest met with no response from on high. A man, therefore, whose prayer was not heard, and who used to receive beatings from others and died in extreme disappointment, cannot be called the all-powerful God. Indeed, he is a mere nothing even in comparison with the God of the Aryas. After ridiculing the story about Christ having risen from his grave, the Editor remarks that even Hindús do not represent their Gods as having died on the Cross or as having been cursed by God. He concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

Nimás and *Sandhya*.

12. One Abu Rahmat, of (Meerut), writing to the same Paper, takes exception to one Tota Ram's remarks about the Qurán in his criticism of Maulvi Sana Ullah's *Nizám-i-Arba* (*vide* paragraph 18 of the Selections No. 12 of 1901), and says that they are calculated to wound the feelings of Musalmáns. After making similar remarks about the Vedas, the writer endeavours to show that *Nimás* is far superior to *Sandhya*. He adds that the saying of the latter is not

enjoined in the Vedas; and offers a reward of Rs. 100 to any one who can prove that, according to the said books, those who perform *Sandhya* can attain salvation.

13. The following is taken from a prospectus of the *Review of Religions*, a monthly magazine, issued by the Anjuman-i-Ishâat-i-Islâm, Kâdiân:—

The Review of Religions.

"We are bound to state that in setting before us the grand and all-absorbing object of revolutionising the existing forms of religion, and in undertaking the tremendous responsibility of pointing out the true method for release from the bondage of sin and breathing into the seekers after truth the spirit which should invigorate them to act upon the principles of truth, we would have undertaken a task quite beyond our power or that of any other mortal, had it not been for the guidance vouchsafed to us in this matter by the All-wise and All-powerful God through the foundation of the heavenly mission known as the Ahmadiyyah. This propaganda has been established by the hand of God in accordance with His eternal and unchangeable laws. A messenger has come from heaven when all eyes had been looking up to it in the expectations of his appearance. The prophets of God had spoken of this time, and the sacred writings gave the glad tidings of the holy man from the East in the latter days. Mirza Ghulâm Ahmad, whom God has chosen to be His Messiah, has come in fulfilment of the prophecies given to Jews, Christians and Muhammadans. Where and for what purpose this sun of righteousness has arisen, we shall state elsewhere. Here we wish only to point out that in almost every number of the magazine we shall be able to give translations of his learned and masterly expositions of difficult religious questions. * * * * * * * *

"Our object in starting "*The Review of Religions*" is twofold: firstly, to draw the world to truth, *viz.*, to teach true morals, to inculcate true beliefs, to disseminate true knowledge, and last, though not least, to make men act upon the principles of truth ordained. Secondly, to draw them with a magnetism so mighty in operation that it may create in them a power to act upon the doctrines taught. It is admitted on all hands and not to be treated with indifference, that mere knowledge of the virtues cannot make a man good. Want has always been felt, on the other hand, of the appearance in every age of a person who is naturally endowed with the power of drawing and electrifying other persons. * * * * * * * *

It must also be pointed out here that the divine law, according to which the vicegerents of God have been appearing upon earth for the guidance of men, is not a dead-letter now. If it is true that God wills now as He willed in time past that men should repent of evil and be righteous, we undoubtedly stand in need of an inspired reformer who like the former prophets has the magnetism to draw people to goodness, who possesses divine attributes, whose life stands out in purity eminently above others, whose teachings have the power to attract and who can show extraordinary signs.

"Our object in this magazine is to show—

"(1) who this inspired reformer is;

"(2) what arguments and signs there are which support his claim;

"(3) what his moral teachings are;

"(4) what beliefs he inculcates and what he rejects;

"(5) what truths and knowledge he has brought and in which of the divine books they are to be found; and

"(6) what path he teaches for seeking union in God.

"Under these six heads falls the vast variety of the subjects to which the pages of the magazine shall be devoted. Besides these it undertakes to refute every objection against Islám, the holy Qurán, the holy Prophet Muhammad,—may the blessings of God be upon him,—and the great Reformer, the holy founder of the mission to which reference has above been made. It shall defend the cause of truth and oppose every false doctrine or erroneous teaching which is in violation of the rights of the Creator or the created."

VII—General Administration.

(*a*) *Judicial.*

A protest against the appointment of Lála Rám Náth as Judge of the Small Cause Court, Amritsar.

14. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th January 1902, alleges that the appointment of Lála Rám Náth as Judge, Small Cause Court, Amritsar, is calculated to lead to undesirable results. He has a very wide circle of relatives in the city, and the fact is exercising a disquieting effect on the public. The Editor adds that Bábu Shib Naráin, a local Pleader, is related to the Lála, and that an impression has gone abroad that to engage the Bábu in cases filed in the Small Cause Court is the surest way to win the same. Lála Rám Náth may not be partial to the said Pleader, but, all the same, the above impression is general in Amritsar. After referring to Government orders forbidding the posting of an officer to a district in which a number of his relatives resides and remarking that quite recently Maulvi Inám Ali was transferred from Siálkot for the same reason, the Editor promises to publish a list of Lála Rám Náth's relatives in Amritsar at some future time.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police force and its detractors.

15. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated 10th January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer endeavours to prove that graduates are certain to prove failures as Police Officers. After remarking that the Police Department is a most useful branch of the public service, he observes that the police seem to have fallen on evil days and that their detractors are busy in belittling the force in the eyes of both Government and the people. He adds that these detractors are making use of bad characters, who are roughly handled by the police in the discharge of their duties, and that these worthies naturally do their utmost to foment hatred against the guardians of the public peace, and the cry is readily taken up by the Press without ascertaining facts. The police have, however, no means to rebut the charges preferred against them. All that they can do is to keep silent and wait for better times.

Counterfeiting, gambling and card-sharping at Amritsar.

16. The *Ahlúwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th January 1902, after remarking that Mehta Arjan Dás, Assistant District Superintendent of Police, is making strenuous efforts to trace the currency notes stolen from the Amritsar Treasury, remarks that were that officer also to turn his attention to counterfeiting, the gang at Amritsar, which is turning out counterfeit coins with impunity (*vide* paragraph 19, of Selections No. 2 of 1902), would soon be brought to book. The Editor urges the Mehta to suppress gambling and cardsharping at Amritsar.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

A proposal to levy house-tax in Delhi.

17. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 15th January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, commenting on the memorial submitted to Government by the residents of Delhi protesting against the imposition of a house-tax in that city, remarks that the tax is calculated to press heavily on the people, who have already to pay a number of other taxes. After requesting Government not to sanction the imposition of the tax in question, the correspondent remarks that another reason why the residents of Delhi are opposed to the proposal is that the construction of the drains, on which the money to be realized from this source is to be spent, is calculated to serve no useful purpose, while it will have the effect of lessening the width of thoroughfares.

Mr. Greenwood, Secretary to the Siálkot Municipality.

18. One Mirán Bakhsh of Siálkot, writing to the *Sirájul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 13th January 1902, refers to the manifold services rendered by Mr. Greenwood, the present Secretary to the Siálkot Municipality, since his appointment in 1866, and highly praises that gentleman's qualities of head and heart. Indeed, the improvement of the city, the satisfactory working of the Municipal and District Boards and their increased incomes are chiefly due to the vigilance and energy of Mr. Greenwood. Nor is this all. His services to the Boards as well as those in connection with the census and the plague have been repeatedly acknowledged by different Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners as well as by the Local and the Supreme Governments. It is therefore inexplicable why he has so far received no reward from Government in recognition of his valuable services, although far inferior services rendered by other men have been rewarded by grants of titles of honor. After expressing regret that so far no title should have been conferred on an able and popular officer like Mr. Greenwood, who is, besides, a sincere well-wisher of both Government and the people, the writer suggests that the mistake should be rectified on the occasion of the King-Emperor's Coronation. He adds that by honouring the Municipal Secretary, Siálkot, the authorities will be encouraging other officials to serve Government and its subjects with all their heart and soul.

A complaint against the Municipal Secretary of Amritsar.

19. The *Ahlúwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th January 1902, alleges that during the last Christmas his subordinates vied with one another in presenting *dális* to Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality. Nor is this all. They also presented a joint *dáli*, towards the cost of

which each had to pay $\frac{1}{10}$th of his salary. The Editor adds that every *kalı* was presented through Tára Singh, Dárogha of Tramcar horses, against whom several complaints have appeared in the Gazette.

(d)—Education.

School vernacular in the Punjab.

20. In reviewing the last report on Public Instruction in the Punjab the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 14th January 1902, remarks as follows :—

"We have always held that the fact that the mother-tongue of the people is not their school vernacular has greatly retarded the progress of elementary education in the Punjab. We are glad Mr. Bell has drawn attention to this anomaly. He says that 'in large areas of this Province we must distinguish between the real mother-tongue of the people and the "official vernacular." It is clear that a number of boys in our Primary Schools are learing what is called the vernacular as distinct from their mother-tongue, with the result that the language of the class-room is Punjabi while that of the text-books is Urdu.' These words call public attention to a very serious defect in our educational system. Let us hope that something will be done to remedy it. The fetish of Delhi and Lucknow Urdu that has dominated in the Punjab for the past twenty years has had a very injurious effect on the development of a true vernacular literature in the Province. The vernacular of the text-books is a foreign tongue in relation to what the pupils use in their homes and family circles. Whilst Bombay, Bengal and Madras have created a valuable vernacular literature of their own, we in the Punjab have yet to acquire even the most elementary notions on the subject. Mr. Bell will certainly earn the lasting gratitude of the people if he can do something to remove this serious deficiency in the educational arrangements of the Province. It is certainly satisfactory to note in connection with Primary education in the Punjab that the number of schools and pupils has risen, the examination results are better, and the fee receipts and expenditure from public funds are larger."

Contract for the publication and sale of text-books used in the Punjab.

21. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th January 1902, complains that the contract for printing and selling text-books used in the Punjab has been in the hands of the same persons for a long time past. The Editor then alleges that the said books are sold at prices out of all proportion to their bulk, and that the public have to waste considerable time in purchasing the same at the premises of the contractors. He further complains that tenders for the contract are not invited, and suggests that in future a departure should be made in this respect. In conclusion, he requests the Director of Public Instruction and other officers concerned to take steps to remove the evils complained of.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The prevailing drought.

22. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th January 1902, remarks that signs are not wanting to show that the prevailing drought may lead to a general famine in the Punjab. Indeed, if the rains hold off much longer, the poor will have

only God to look to for protection. After remarking that of the 4,000,000 acres of bárání land in the Province only 3,000,000 acres have been sown with wheat, the Editor calls upon the authorities to extend the means of irrigation in the country as the most effectual way of preventing famines.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

23. A correspondent writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 13th January 1902, remarks that, with the exception of Akálgarh, no station on the Wazírabad-Lyallpur Line is provided with a platform, and that this is a source of great inconvenience to the travelling public. The matter has more than once been brought to the notice of the Railway authorities, but so far they have paid no heed to it. The writer adds that during the preceding week a European lady, while alighting from the train at the Háfizabad Station, fell face downwards, and remarks that it is not improbable that the accident may induce the Railway authorities to remove the evil complained of.

Want of platforms at stations on the Wazírabad-Lyallpur Line.

24. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a supplement, of the 10th January 1902, says that Government has sanctioned the construction of a railway between Malikwál—a station on the Sind-Ságar Railway—and the Koh Karána, and that the object of the new undertaking is to add to the comfort of the travelling public, facilitate the export of grain and subserve trade. The Editor then suggests that the village, where the (? proposed) line and the Bhera-Midh-Ránjha Road cross each other, being only 10 miles distant from Bhera, a branch railway should be constructed between it and the town named. This, he adds, would facilitate the export of grain from the Bár *iláka* to Bhera and the disposal thereof at the latter place. It may be mentioned here that the aforesaid town is the only large grain mart throughout the tahsíl, nay the Shahpur District, and that Ralli Brothers as well as Sanday (?) Patrick & Co. have their agencies there for the purchase of grain. He then goes on to say that the construction of the suggested line would enable the *Zamíndárs* to convey the produce of their lands to Bhera for sale on payment of a small freight, afford facilities to traders in the matter of purchasing grain at Bhera itself, and keep up the importance of that town. The Editor further remarks that the Bhera-Midh-Ránjha Road is so level that it would not cost Government very much to lay rails on it, while the traffic is so heavy that it resembles a trunk road in this respect. He then suggests that a station should be opened at the village where this road crosses the proposed railway, so that the grain from the new colony, which can be brought to that village by road, may thence be railed (to Bhera). He adds that if the station is erected at a distance from the road the owners will have to carry the grain over that distance also, which would entail unnecessary labour and expense on them.

A suggestion to construct a branch railway between Bhera and a certain village on the Midh-Ránjha-Bhera Road.

(g)—Postal Matters.

25. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a supplement, of the 10th January 1902, remarks that letters, money-orders, &c., for Chak Rám Dás, Jhawárián, Chak Músa and Kálra reach their respective destinations 24 hours late. The Editor adds

A postal complaint.

that the evil is due to the fact that the mails for these places are not forwarded from Bhera till 6 hours after their arrival at that town. Were, however, the letters, &c., sorted and sent within half an hour of their arrival, they could reach the abovementioned places the same day. The official dák from the Bhera Tahsíl Offices and the Munsif's Court could be despatched by the evening train without the least harm accruing from the change.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague at Siálkot.

26. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th January 1902, complains that although the plague is daily on the increase at Siálkot, the local Municipality seems loth to do anything to stamp out the epidemic. Nay, not a few Municipal Commissioners go the length of ascribing deaths from plague to other causes, and opposing the President's proposals for the good of their fellow-townsmen. It may be added that the Presidents and members of some of the Ward Committees do not even reside in Siálkot, while those of others cannot leave off their vocations to attend to plague duties. In a word, alleges the Editor, although the people are dying from plague, the said Committees do not seem willing to bestir themselves. He further remarks that but for its Secretary, Mr. Greenwood, the Siálkot Municipality would be in a bad way indeed.

A suggestion to open a hospital in the Shahpur City.

27. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a supplement, dated the 10th January 1902, alleges that it has received several complaints to the effect that the absence of a hospital in the Shahpur City is proving a source of great inconvenience to the people. Under the present arrangements patients or their relations have to go to the Civil Lines Dispensary, which is three miles distant from the city, for advice and medicine. The Editor, therefore, suggests that having regard to the large population of Shahpur it appears necessary that a separate hospital should be opened in the city. Should the local Municipality, he adds, be unable to meet the necessary expenditure the District Board should be required to do so. It may be mentioned here that the suggestion can be carried into effect at a very small expense to the Municipality or the Board. Lála Nának Chand, a retired Hospital Assistant, who resides in the city and is an able and experienced man, should be placed in charge of the proposed hospital and paid a monthly allowance of Rs. 150. He should be given only one compounder for his assistance, while the cost of medicine would not exceed another Rs. 15 a month. Again, the establishment of the hospital would enable the Municipality to dispense with the services of the Native Hakím at present employed by it, and thus save the amount now paid as his salary.

Exclusion of the *Baisákhi* from the list of public holidays

28. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th January 1902, says that the list of public holidays published by the Local Government contains no mention of the *Baisákhi*. The Editor adds that it is too well known to require mention that the *Baisákhi* is a very important Hindu festival and that fairs are held on the occasion throughout the Punjab. He is, therefore, at a loss to understand why that day should have been excluded from the list, and calls upon Government to rectify the mistake.

29. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 15th January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that pneumonia has been raging in Delhi for a month past and that during the preceding week several deaths have occurred from it. The disease has also appeared in the local Police Lines and several constables have succumbed to it. The correspondent adds that Dr. Haidar Khán, Medical Officer in charge of the Lines, is said to have displayed carelessness in treating the deceased. The opinion is, however, hasty and the public is mistaken in coming to such a conclusion. The Doctor did his best for his patients.

An outbreak of pneumonia in Delhi.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—27-1-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 4.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 25th January 1902.

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 4.]

SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 25th January 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Mr. Stead and the Turks.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th January 1902, remarks that Mr. Stead, Editor of the *Review of Reviews*, is generally a just-minded person, ever ready to befriend the oppressed and expose the wrong doings of tyrants. In certain respects, however, his brain is so warped that not infrequently he is guilty of actions calculated to offend the feelings of a large part of the population of the world. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that although he is strongly opposed to the waging of war, and has been condemning the present Ministry in unmeasured terms for resorting to the arbitrament of the sword in South Africa, he misses no opportunity of inciting Christendom to fight the Turks and wipe them off the face of the earth. Even in his recent pamphlet on the apprehended Americanisation of the world Mr. Stead has something to say on this head. He expresses his belief that the near Eastern question is ultimately to be decided by uncle Sam, and adds that the abduction of Miss Stone having drawn the Yankee's attention to the Balkan Peninsula, that part of Europe is certain to pass into the possession of America at no distant date. After remarking that all this is mere talk, the Editor observes that these ravings teach a very important lesson, which Turkey should lay to heart. The fact that a man, with the peaceable intentions of Mr. Stead, not only approves of a war against the Turks, but considers it a meritorious act, should help the Sultán's subjects to form an idea of the feelings which are entertained towards them by ordinary Christians. The Turks should not, therefore, neglect the defence of their country, and every one, who considers the existence of the Khalífa essential for the well-being of Islám, should give money for the purpose.

2. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 17th January 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjáz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	7,327	1	4
1. Sheikh Muhammad Sultán, Supervisor, Qulába Khurd, Banby *Iláka* ...	100	0	0
2. Hakím Jamál-ud-dín, of Mauza Khassan, Jullundur District	3	0	0
Total ...	7,340	1	4

(b)—Home.

3. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, says that there is not a single Musalmán throughout India who can lay claim to the qualifications possessed by the late Sir Sayad Ahmad Khán, or who enjoys the confidence of both Government and his co-religionists to the extent that the deceased Knight of Alígarh did. The writer is, therefore, of opinion that the Prophet's followers in the country should not entrust the task of safeguarding their political rights to the Secretary of the Alígarh College, or to any other single individual. Indeed, if they are at all earnest about the matter, he would advise them to establish an association for the purpose, which should represent the public opinion of Indian Muhammadans. He adds that the said College or its Secretary should have nothing to do with the proposed association, as dabbling in politics is calculated to prove injurious to the interests of that institution.

Muhammadans and politics.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1902, concludes an article on the defence of India with the following remarks :—

The defence of India and taxation.

"The capacity of India to bear taxation is certainly not unlimited, and we are certainly within the mark when we say that it is impossible to considerably increase the proceeds from taxes in India without being guilty of positive oppression. As it is, there are several imposts which are open to objection on good and cogent grounds, and which Government would be prepared to remove if it could manage to make both ends meet without them. 'Reform and retrenchment' of the military expenditure of the Indian Empire ought to be the guiding motto of the rulers of India; and every possible effort should be made to get for the money spent on the army the utmost possible value in both efficiency and strength. Further, no country in the world can do without a reserve of strength to fall back upon in emergencies. This reserve of strength, we are afraid, India does not at present possess. To create it, it would be necessary to do away with the present policy of distrusting and irritating the native races. The higher ranks of the army should be thrown open to native gentlemen of good birth and education, and the stigma of

disqualification at present attaching to them should be removed. The present rigorous working of the Arms Act should be so modified as to remove the ban of prohibition which now so unjustly falls upon all men of purely Indian birth and nationality. Purely native Volunteer Corps should be allowed to be established. Any reasonable conditions might be framed for the formation and subsequent regulation of these Corps. The existing conditions that disqualify every native of India, no matter what his position or family status, from enrolment in Volunteer regiments, are as degrading as they are galling. The foundations of England's dominion in India should be broad-based on the affection and good will of the people; and it is the duty of all in any way called upon to take part in the work of governing this country to do everything that lies in their power to secure these. Anything done to alienate the people from their rulers cannot be sufficiently regretted."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The new Amír and Government.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th January 1902, says that the *Pioneer* views with suspicion Habíbullah Khán's conduct in presenting the Mullah of Hadda with the dead Amír's *Taqwim-ud-Dín* and *Targhíb-ul-Jehád*, with the request that the Mullah should introduce the teachings of these books among his disciples. The Editor is, however, of opinion that the *Pioneer's* suspicions are wholly unfounded, and that a ruler's personal sentiments or his liking for a religious leader can have nothing to do with his relations with foreign countries. Besides, the new Amír having just ascended the throne must naturally be anxious to become popular with his subjects. And apparently His Highness could not have gained this object in any other way than by trying to please a man admired and revered by the Afgháns. It may be added that Habíbullah Khán possesses neither the head nor the courage of his late father, and that consequently he is not above resorting to such means in the accomplishment of the task before him. Besides, so far His Highness does not possess a personality strong enough to make him dispense with such helps. Of course if his stars prove auspicious and Afghánistan is not involved in internecine quarrels, he will assuredly succeed in acquiring the influence wielded by Abdur Rahmán and removing all cause for Government to suspect his friendship.

III.—Native States.

Government and Native States.

6. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th January 1902, says that the generality of the articles published by the *Amrita Bazár Patrika* justify Government in suspecting the loyalty of natives. They are, besides, proving a source of loss to the children of the soil, inasmuch as they lead Government to postpone the grant of concessions which it would otherwise have long ago conferred upon the people. The writer then takes exception to the tone of the articles published in the *Patrika* about Native States from time to time. He adds that the sole object of such writings is to please the rulers and officials of the said States,—a policy which is undoubtedly profitable to the paper itself, but which greatly injures the States and their servants and subjects. It may be mentioned here that the *Amrita Bazár Patrika* is a past master in the art of leading Indian Princes and their officials astray, and

that it never misses an opportunity of giving them to understand that the easiest way for them to escape being treated in a high-handed manner by Political Agents—whose lawful orders and considerate treatment of all who thus termed in Native States—is to seek the help of that paper, just as was done by the late Begam of Bhopál. It will not, however, be out of place to enquire from the *Patrika* what object it had in view in giving publicity to certain old occurrences soon after the accession of the present Begam. The correspondent is of opinion that this was done merely to make Her Highness and other Native rulers understand that the paper in question can stand them in good stead in times of need. He then defends Government's policy in appointing Political Agents in feudatory States, prohibiting Indian Princes from going to Europe without its permission and otherwise interesting itself in the administration of the States. In this connection, he refers to certain arbitrary doings of certain Chiefs, and remarks that such occurrences justify Government's present attitude towards Native States. He further observes that were the States to improve their administration the necessity for deputing European officers to them would cease to exist. He is also of opinion that petty Chiefs, who are exempted from maintaining Imperial Service troops, should request Government to include their States in British territory, and should live like Jágírdárs. Indeed, so long as they do not do so they are certain to remain in debt, seeing that the establishments they have to employ and the maintenance of their position as ruling Princes cost more than the revenues of their States.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Bogus Marriage Funds in the Punjab.

7. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, says that some time back certain "respectable" swindlers in Kunjpura, Karnál District, hit on a novel plan of earning their livelihood. They started six Marriage Funds for Muhammadans, and by this means looted a number of orphans and poor women. On the matter reaching the ears of Government, Bábu Umráo Singh, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Ambala, was deputed to make the necessary enquiries, with the result that 19 persons have been arrested and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment. The Editor then goes on to say that one or more funds of a like nature exist in Lahore and Amritsar, and requests Government to turn its attention to them also.

The power that animates the Aryás.

8. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 17th January 1902, says that the power which inspires the Boers, who possess neither wealth nor a kingdom, to defy an Empire, over which the sun never sets, is a power under the influence of which the weakest man will array himself, not against hundreds and thousands, but against the entire world. It was this power, adds the Editor, which induced a poor man like Martin Luther to gird up his loins to demolish Popery, which was all-powerful during his time. But it is not ancient history alone which furnishes examples of such heroism. The bitter opposition, in the face of which the late Swámi Dayánand had to re-establish the Vedic religion in India, is still fresh in the minds of many. The Editor then exhorts the Aryás to bestir themselves and discharge their self-imposed duty of spreading the said faith throughout the world.

Mirza Hairat, a translator of the Qorán.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th January 1902, publishes a communication from one Muhammad Abdul Ghaffár Khán, of Ratlam, Malwa, who ridicules Mirza Hairat for finding fault with Maulvi Nazir Ahmad's Urdú translation of the Qorán, and says that the Mirza is not fitted to undertake a translation of the said book. In the first place, while Maulvi Nazir Ahmad's works show that he is free from every moral vice, Mirza Hairat has, in a dream, lately published by him in his newspaper, the *Curzon Gazette*, used obscene words and heaped abuses on the heads of a certain section of Muhammadans. Indeed, if the ideas expressed in the dream are the Mirza's own, he cannot be called a Muhammadan at all. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that he derides the story about Christ having been born without a father (*vide* paragraph 9 of the Selections No. 26 of 1901), whereas several verses in the Qorán support the story. All this, adds the Editor, would show that the Editor of the *Curzon Gazette* is not a fit person to undertake a translation of the sacred book of Islám.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th January 1902, reports that one 'Amíd-ud-dín of Delhi has been arrested on a charge of publishing a book which is said to contain passages calculated to afford provocation to the Aryás and Hindús. The accused has been prosecuted under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code, which is a non-bailable offence. The Editor adds that to the best of his knowledge the incriminating book was written in reply to Munshi Indarman's *Astí-i-Ahmadi* several years before the said section was in existence.* He is, therefore, at a loss to understand why 'Amíd-ud-dín has been prosecuted at this time of the day. He wishes to mention here that when the Musalmáns complained to the Local Government about the publication of an obscene book like the *Ummáhát-i-Momnín* they were informed in reply that the same having been published prior to the introduction of Section 153 A no action could be taken in the matter. After remarking that the case had not been "challáned" up to the 14th instant, the Editor observes that the accused is a poor and inoffensive man, and that he has concealed nothing from the Police. At all events the Muhammadans have no cause to feel uneasy, as the Deputy Commissioner, Captain Douglas, may be depended upon to do justice in the case.

(d)—Education.

Education among the Muhammadans of the Dera Ghází Khán District.

11. One Syad Ghulám Ali Shah, a student of the B. A. Class, Alígarh College, writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, says that the residents of the Dera Gházi Khan District are very backward in the matter of education. This is especially the case with the Muhammadans, who seem to be sunk in gross ignorance. The writer adds that the number of Musalmán raises in the district is sufficiently large, and that they enjoy several concessions from Government. It is, however, to be regretted that, with the

* Yes, but the book was revised and reprinted by Amíd-ud-dín in 1899.

exception of Sir Imám Bakhsh Khán, all of these worthies are a pleasure-loving, ignorant and bigoted lot. In their opinion English education militates against religion, while moral vices are regarded by them as a sign of a man being a *rais*. Should they be asked to send their sons to school, their invariable reply is that such education makes its recipients disrespectful, impertinent and irreligious. The result of this is that the sons of these raises are taught nothing, and all that their fathers can do for them is to get them appointed as Police Sergeants, &c. As for the middle class Muhammadans, they are also not free from moral vices, while extravagance and imprudence are their distinguishing characteristics. They seem to be under the impression that their duty towards their sons consists, not in educating, but in providing wives for them. Again, they are completely under the thumb of [illegible] Mullas, and consider it a sin to utilize money earned in Government [illegible]. The correspondent then calls upon all classes of Mussalmáns residing in the Dera Gházi Khan District to shake off their lethargy and take to [illegible] more kindly.

A suggestion to grant retiring pensions to the employés of the Municipal and District Boards Schools.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th January 1902, remarks that when the employés of every department of the Public Service are entitled to retiring pensions there is no reason why the employés of Municipal and District Boards Schools, who perform a very useful work, should be deprived of the privilege. The Editor invites Lord Curzon's attention to the matter, and expresses the hope that His Lordship will give it his best consideration.

(c)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

A Resolution on the Land Revenue Assessment.

13. Commenting on the Government of India's Resolution on the Land Revenue Assessment, the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st January 1902, remarks as follows:—

"No sane man ever expected that the Government of India, in its Resolution on the land revenue question which was announced a few days ago, would condemn even in a qualified manner the policy pursued by successive generations of its administrators for over a century. The utmost that might be looked for in the most candid pronouncement was that the existence of unquestionable or unavoidable blemishes in the system would be acknowledged and undertaken to be removed. This is practically what has been done, though the tone of the Resolution, published in the last *Gazette of India*, is one more of a defence of the system against the attacks of critics, specially, of Mr. R. C. Dutt, than one of an anxiety to set the discussion on the question at rest by instituting a fair enquiry. What, however, gave the announcement of the Resolution its special interest and importance was the fact that the Government had been shaken from its attitude of indifference towards the critics and had entered into a discussion, which if kept up, as it is bound to be, is sure to lead to the truth about the matter sooner or later. In this still

consists the interest of the Resolution, though out-and-out supporters of the Government are inclined to regard it as having practically 'settled' Mr. R. C. Dutt and his party. Even if the existence of inaccuracies in Mr. Dutt's writings be shown in the course of the discussion, still he and his friends have reason to be more glad than sorry; for one of the most vital questions relating to the Indian financial economy has been brought within the range of practical politics, and the well organised resources of the Government of India brought to bear upon its solution.

"Although the enquiry on which the Resolution is based has been attempted to be made as comprehensive as possible, yet no fair-minded person can admit it to have been such when no independent investigation by a specially appointed Committee was undertaken. What has been done is that the allegations made by the critics of the existing land revenue policy were referred to the different Local Governments, and the replies received from the latter form the basis of the Government of India's conclusions. Under the circumstances, the conclusions were bound to be to a certain extent foregone ones, for the enquiry was practically placed in the hands of the very parties whose measures were assailed, and whose natural inclination whould therefore be to put the best appearance on things. Of course, the usual vote of thanks is earned by the Local Governments and their officers, for those who have once got into the sacred precincts of the heaven-born services can do nothing wrong and must always go on getting thanks for whatever they do. Only the other day the Secretary of State, in his despatch on the Famine Commission's Report, took occasion to pay a tribute to the high sense of duty of the Guzerat officials, notwithstanding that defects in the famine administration of these officials had been seriously commented on in the Report. Now His Excellency the Governor-General in Council is 'grateful' to the Local Governments for the 'labour' which has been bestowed upon the preparation of their replies, 'and he hopes that in the comprehensive (*sic*) review of land revenue policy throughout India which has thereby been obtained may be found a corrective to many current misapprehensions and a source of more trustworthy knowledge in future.' Real students and enquirers will demur to such a glowing expression of hope, and they will find it altogether difficult to understand how the defence of the accused in a case can be accepted as the most approved source of 'trustworthy knowledge' in regard to it in the absence of an independent enquiry. * * * Self-satisfied as the Resolution otherwise is, under a consciousness of having demolished the critics of Government, the critics should take heart of grace from this circumstance. If the Government undertakes (1) that in future large enhancements of revenue will be 'graduated' and not sudden, (2) that greater elasticity will be provided in the collection of the revenue by adjusting it to the variations of the season and the circumstances of the people, (3) and that reduction of assessments will be more generally resorted to in the case of local deteriorations, the critics will have gained practically all that they had contended for. These are exactly the requirements in the land revenue system that they have been trying to point out all these years." * * *

(g)—Postal Matters.

Despatch of mails between Lahore and Siálkot.

14. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th January 1902, suggests that if the mails for Siálkot were despatched from Lahore in the 10-15 A.M. train, letters, &c., for the former city would reach their destination at 3-15 P.M. This, adds the Editor, would prove a great boon to the local public, and the Postmaster-General should, therefore, look into the matter.

A suggestion to lighten the work of Inspectors of Post Offices.

15. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th January 1902, remarks that formerly District Inspectors of Schools used to inspect all post offices attached to village schools. Now, however, the work has been entrusted to Inspectors of Post Offices, which has considerably added to their duties which were already very heavy. The consequence is that although the said officials are busy night and day they find it impossible to cope with their work. It may be added that they have been given no clerks to assist them in the disposal of the extra work. The Editor then suggests that this should be done without delay, the salaries of the clerks being fixed at Rs. 15 or Rs. 20.

Complaints against postal officials.

16. The *Shamím-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 19th January 1902, remarks that no postage being paid for letters of complaint against postal officials, certain foolish and idle persons at Jullundur seem to have made it their occupation to make complaints against the officials of the local post office. It may be added that the complaints are invariably trivial ones, and that not infrequently they are prompted by motives of personal revenge. Besides, every human being is liable to error, especially the hard-worked postal employés. The Editor then suggests that postage should be levied for letters containing complaints against the officials of the Postal Department. He also suggests that such complaints should not be decided *ex parte* and without calling for a defence from the parties complained against.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

17. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes exception to the practice of disinfecting only a few houses in the neighbourhood of one in which the plague breaks out. This, he adds, is like trying to sink a well in order to obtain water to put out a fire which is already reducing a building to cinders. He then remarks that if the epidemic has really appeared in Lahore every house in the city should be disinfected without delay. There can be no doubt that this means a heavy expenditure, but then the resulting advantages would also be in proportion to the money spent. After remarking that the drains should also be kept in a cleanly condition and that the heaps of filth lying in different quarters of the city should be removed, the correspondent suggests that the necessary disinfectants should be distributed to the people through the leading residents of Mohallas.

18. Another correspondent writing to the same paper remarks that the notice issued by the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore about inoculation leaves no room for doubt that the local authorities are extremely solicitous about the welfare of the people. It would, however, have been better if the notice had contained greater information about the subject. For instance, it should have been made clear on what part of the body a person is inoculated, what sort of clothes he should wear at the time, and what should be his diet for some days after inoculation. It should also have been stated in the notice what symptoms follow the operation and for how many days they last. The writer adds that in the absence of such information the people hesitate to get themselves inoculated. Were they, however, enlightened on the above points, they would present themselves for inoculation in crowds.

The same.

19. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, remarks that if the plague succeeds in obtaining a footing in a densely populated city like Lahore it will cause far greater suffering and loss than it has done in Karachi or Bombay. The Editor then praises Government for its unprecedented solicitude for the welfare of the people, and says that Messrs. Atkins and Calvert are doing their utmost for the Lahoris. The local Municipal Commissioners are also loyally co-operating with the officers named, and do not hesitate to spend money from their own pocket in relieving sufferings. If in spite of this the people are subjected to any loss, they will have only fate to blame. The Editor then refers to the measures adopted to stamp out the epidemic in the city.

The same.

20. The same paper remarks that the plague having appeared in Lahore, the utmost regard should be paid to the sanitation of the city, and regrets that this is not being done. In the first place, the filth carts which, according to rule, should leave the city by 10-30 A.M. are to be seen at their stands so late as 12 noon. Again, the *kuchás* and *gallis* of the city are also in a very uncleanly condition. The Editor then calls upon the Municipality to wake up its conservancy officials.

The same.

21. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th January 1902, remarks that all experienced doctors are of opinion that there is not only no plague in Lahore but that the epidemic cannot appear in the city. The Editor adds that a few suspected cases having recently occurred in Lahore, notices were issued with the object of inducing the people to adopt certain precautionary measures. Arrangements for plague inoculation free of charge were also made and those willing were invited to get themselves inoculated. All this created a great panic in the city, upon which the local authorities and Municipal Commissioners went about informing the people that there was no plague in Lahore and no compulsion was to be used in the matter of inoculation. This has had the effect of re-assuring the residents and allaying their misapprehensions.

22. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th January 1902, says that as several trains run daily between Lahore and Amritsar the outbreak of the plague in the former city constitutes a source of danger for the residents of the latter also. It is, however, a matter for satisfaction that the steps taken to prevent the disease spreading in Lahore afford testimony to the authorities' solicitude for the welfare of the people. In these circumstances, the Editor expresses the hope that the Lahoris will conform to the measures that may be adopted for their own good, and will co-operate with Government in combating the epidemic. He then suggests that if the residents of Amritsar, Gujránwála, &c., were invited to get themselves inoculated the results would certainly prove satisfactory. He is also of opinion that if at the head-quarters of every district arrangements were made for inoculation without payment of a fee and these arrangements were placed in the hands of local Municipalities, plague inoculation would become as popular as vaccination. The Editor does not mean to say that any compulsion should be used towards the people in this respect; still he must remark that the present state of native society reminds him of the adage "A boy does not *go* to school but *is taken* there."

The same.

23. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 15th January 1902, publishes the following:—

"The authorities are trying to be on the alert against further spread of the disease in Lahore and doing what they can to arrest its progress. Many of the prominent men of the city are heartily co-operating with the officials, and if this spirit continues, the work of fighting the plague and eventually stamping it out may be expected to go on smoothly. It is a welcome sign that the local officials are showing a desire to carefully adhere to the new policy of having as little interference as possible, and care should be taken that no misunderstanding or imprudence is allowed to mar the effect that is being produced. In a suspected plague case, where a *pardah* woman was the supposed patient, we hear, the people of the house objected to her being examined by a male doctor, and the best way to remove difficulties arising under this head will be to engage the services of a lady doctor. A proposal to the above effect is, we believe, coming before the Special General Meeting of the Municipality to-morrow, which is to consider the question of strengthening the plague *amla*, and we hope the meeting will recognise the full importance of the proposal, as without a lady doctor to examine females supposed to be attacked by plague and to go behind the *pardah* for inspection, &c., the work of fighting the epidemic will be seriously hampered."

The same.

24. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 15th January 1902, remarks that the sudden increase in the number of plague patients in Siálkot has spread quite a panic in the city, and that residents are fast migrating to other places. The local native officials tried to secure accommodation in the Cantonment, but without success. The Editor adds that the consternation is so great that deaths from other causes are also being ascribed to plague, and that no one would touch the body of a *kahár* who died the other day. It is, however, a matter for satisfaction that the Municipality is making strenuous efforts to improve the sanitary condition of the city, and that the people are spending hundreds of rupees on the performance of *havans*.

25. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, remarks that it is a matter of surprise that the efforts to find out the causes and remedies of the bubonic plague only serve to reveal man's ignorance of the nature, &c., of the disease. The Plague Commission, which was appointed in 1898 on the recommendation of the Government of India and visited different parts of the country, has just issued its report. But although the book is a voluminou. one, it does not add an iota to our knowledge of plague. Indeed, the Commissioners themselves admit that they have been unable to determine the true causes of the malady, while all other conclusions are based on doubts and possibilities. Their findings in regard to inoculation are also indefinite and tinged with uncertainty. In other words, the report falsifies the "knowledge," which had so far been gained of the epidemic and which served as a guide to both the Government and the people. In these circumstances, the Editor is of opinion that it would have been much better if the Commission had issued no report. So far, he adds, the people were under the impression that the spread of the bubonic plague could be prevented by means of inoculation and disinfection. Now, however, they have the opinions of experts to the contrary. Nevertheless, the Editor would request his fellow-countrymen to pay due regard to cleanliness, avoid damp, keep their houses and bodies warm, and stop all communication with the residents of infected places.

The same.

26. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 18th January 1902, says that it is rumoured in Lahore that some time back a certain native Deputy Commissioner, on his return from a visit to a feudatory State adjoining his *iláka*, wrote a letter to the ruler concerned to enquire if it was on account of his being a native that His Highness had not received him in the same way as other Deputy Commissioners who had visited the State before him. In reply the Chief pointed out that he used to go to receive other Deputy Commissioners as they invariably informed him of the date of their arrival beforehand, which the officer in question had not done. Besides, being much older than his guest His Highness was entitled to a first visit from the latter. The Editor adds that the purport of this correspondence having come to the knowledge of the Local Government the officer aforesaid was transferred to another district, and Deputy Commissioners were forbidden to visit Native States without the permission of Government. The incident, he observes, would show that natives are as yet unfitted to hold the high posts demanded for them by the Congresswalas and others, and that were the demand granted the narrow-mindedness of highly placed native officers would prove a source of misery to their fellow countrymen.

A complaint against a native Deputy Commissioner.

27. A Lahore correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 18th January 1902, says that on the 11th idem he heard certain highly-placed local European officers say that the *Akhbár's* opinions were generally sensible and well considered. Indeed, one of the gentlemen declared that the paper was not only a popular one, but that it also served as an interpreter between the rulers and the ruled. Another officer paid a compliment

The late Queen-Empress' statue at Lahore

to the correspondents of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* by remarking that they appeared to be reasonable and sensible men. The writer, who was also standing by, remarked that Pandit Gopi Náth himself was a very able person. The conversation then turned on the late Queen-Empress' statue recently unveiled at Lahore, when the correspondent begged the aforesaid officers' leave to say that they (Europeans) preferred to confer benefits upon men of their own nationality only. One of the gentlemen became angry at this and declared that there was no truth in the accusation. The writer, however, defended his remark by saying:—"I am only speaking the truth; there is nothing to be angry about in what I have said. Think only of this statue of Her late Majesty. You have spent Rs. 25,000 on it, but not one man has liked it. You are, however, no doubt pleased at the thought that this large sum of money has gone to your own country. Had you ordered a marble statue from Jaipur it would not only have been of a good white colour, but would also have cost less." To this his interlocutor replied that no sculptor in Jaipur, nay, throughout India, could turn out a statue of the finish of the one erected at Charing Cross. The writer enquired in return if the authorities had ever tried to get a statue made in India and if native artists had declined to undertake the task. Upon being replied to in the negative, he suggested that subscriptions realized from natives should be spent in India and that of the 15 or 16 statues to be raised to the dead Queen at least 4 should be ordered from Jaipur. The officer in question promised to lay the suggestion before Government and added that a bronze statue had been ordered for Lahore for the simple reason that it was more durable and cost less. The correspondent, however, remarked that a hideously black statue should not have been raised to the late Queen-Empress, and suggested that it should be painted white. The Sáhib promised to look to this, but expressed a doubt if his "kith and kin" would like the idea. To this the writer replied that Englishmen in India should also look upon natives as their kith and kin, and participate in their sorrows and joys. Upon the gentleman rejoining that religious differences made this impracticable he reminded him that such differences did not prevent the Hindús and Muhammadans from living in the said manner.

A suggestion to improve the present condition of the town of Núrpur.

28. One Abdul Islám Rafiqi, a Municipal Commissioner at Núrpur, writing to the *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), dated 19th January 1902, remarks that drinking water being very scarce in that town, the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Silcock, has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 1,000 from the District Boards Fund for the removal of the evil. The writer regrets that although Núrpur suffers greatly from poverty, scarcity and want of drinking water, no part of the Famine Fund has been allotted to it. He then goes on to say that the town is fast losing its importance and that the following are the only means to restore it to its former position:—

1. The construction of a Railway between it and Pathánkot and the improvement of the Dunera road.
2. The re-establishment of cantonments in the town.
3. The opening of carpet and other factories in the place.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—1-2-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 5.]

SELECTIONS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 5.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 1st February 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 20th, 24th and 27th January 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	7,430	1	4
1. Received from Chúnián, Lahore District		46	8	0
2. Munshi Abdur Rashíd, Delhi	...	2	0	0
3. Dr. Ghulám Ahmad, Dentist, Shikárpur		5	0	0
4. Received through Munshi Abdul Wáhid Khán, Assistant Administrator, Bastar State		22	6	0
5. Received through Munshi Abdul Majíd, Sikandrabad		10	0	0
6. Received through Abdulla Khán, Hospital Assistant, Mastung		9	6	0
Total	...	7,525	5	4

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 10th January 1902 ...		430	0	6
1. Sayad Pír Sháh of Bhankheri ...		6	8	0
2. Maulvi Muhammad Insha-ullah, Editor of the *Watan*		1	7	6
3. Munshi Fidayat-ullah, Petition-writer, Mogh		1	0	0
4. Munshi Khurshaid Ali, Rais, Raipur ...		5	0	0
Total ...		444	0	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...		1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL ...		1,516	3	0

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1902, says that it is a matter for satisfaction that the majority of the present Muhammadan rulers in the world are endowed with qualities which the kings of a nation or religion ought to possess in order to make it great and prosperous. It is still more gratifying to feel that this state of things is likely to continue, and that the successor of one of the said rulers, *viz.*, the dead Amír, appears to be an abler man than his late father. Indeed, Habíbulla Khán may be relied upon to make Afghánistán one of the greatest powers of the world. The Editor adds that during the short time that His Highness has been on the throne he has given sufficient proof that he possesses great natural gifts. If, however, any further proof was needed on the point it is furnished by the new Amír's reply to the local *Anjuman-i-Himáyat-i-Islám's* letter condoling with him on his father's death and congratulating him on his accession. His Highness expresses pleasure at the Anjuman's conduct, and says that Musalmáns in all parts of the world should wish their brethern in faith well, especially their rulers. He also wishes that body success, and asks it to always pray for him.

The new Amír.

4. Khán Bahádur Sayad Hasan Bakhsh, Vice-President of the Mooltan Municipal Committee, writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 25th January 1902, remarks that it is generally said that Government ought to have included some European officers in the deputation recently sent to Kabul in connection with the late Amír's death. The critics of Government urge that the composition of the deputation was derogatory to the dignity of the ruler of Afghánistán (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 1). The writer, however, does not share this view, and says that the ceremony of saying the *fateh* could have been properly performed by Muhammadans alone and that the inclusion of Europeans in the deputation would have only served the purpose of a wet blanket. Besides, if the appointment of a Muhammadan as a British Envoy

The deputation to Kábul in connection with the late Amír's death.

in Kabul is not derogatory to the dignity of the Amir, it is difficult to understand why the despatch of a deputation consisting exclusively of Musalmáns should be considered objectionable. It should also be remembered that the head of the deputation, although an Extra Assistant Commissioner, comes of a noble family, and that all his colleagues were also the scions of the highest Muhammadan families.

The same.

5. Commenting on the above, the Editor also makes similar remarks, and says that it would have been impossible to find better men to compose the deputation. He adds that both the Viceroy and the Amir have been highly pleased with the manner in which the deputation performed its work.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Kine-slaughter in India.

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 23rd January 1902, publishes the following letter from Tahl Rám of Dera Ismail Khan :—

"I have read with very great benefit the most useful and interesting appeal of "Hind" to His Excellency the Viceroy on the above subject (protection of the bovine species) and another by Master Durga Prasád published in your valuable paper. The subject, it goes without saying, if favourably considered by the Indian Government, will go a long way towards improving our agriculture and bringing the uncultivated lands in India under plough. In many European countries several birds and animals which are useful to the country in any way are by legislation forbidden to be destroyed. Even Muhammadans appreciate the value of those agricultural animals so much so that not only cows and bullocks but buffaloes also were never killed before the advent of the British Government, and even now these animals are not slaughtered in purely Muhammadan Natives States such as Hyderabad (Deccan), Baháwalpur, Tonk (Rájpátána) and Junágarh (Káthiáwar). Owing to the slaughter of these agricultural animals, their price has lately so much increased that it is also one of the chief causes of the indebtedness of the *samindárs* and cultivators. A pair of good bullocks or male buffaloes which used to cost Rs. 40 or so now costs more than Rs. 140 Rs or 150. To *samindárs* and cultivators, cows, bullocks and buffaloes are a necessity, and if in famines he is deprived of them and cannot obtain new ones, he not only loses a source of his livelihood, but he takes to robbery or dacoity and hence becomes a danger to the society and country. It is the duty of all the public bodies in India generally, and of *samindárs* specially, to memorialize the Indian Government for prohibiting by legislation the slaughter of the bovine species, which measure will increase the supply of these agricultural animals and thus reduce their prices which means the curing of agricultural indebtedness. I hope this will not be a cry in the wilderness, specially at a time when another famine seems to threaten the Punjab."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Arya Samáj.

7. The *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1902, publishes the following reprint from the *Indian Mirror* of Calcutta :—

"We had occasion yesterday to refer to the lectures, delivered by two Punjábi gentlemen, on Wednesday and Thursday evening respectively, in the Albert Hall, Calcutta, and we incidentally noticed the remarkable activity of

the Punjábi Hindús in matters connected with social, religious, educational and industrial question. We also referred to the Arya Samáj which, so to speak, has its head-quarters in the Punjab also. We should like to-day to say something more about the work of the Arya Samáj, of which Mr. Lájpat Rái and Mr. Dwárka Dás have proved in Calcutta to be such able exponents and exemplars. First of all, to mention the practical activities of the Arya Samáj in the Punjab, we have the glaring and gratifying instance of the Dayánand Anglo-Vedic College, which is quite as influential and useful to the Hindu community as the Anglo-Muhammadan College at Alígarh to the Musalmán community of India. To this College there are adjuncts in numerous towns and villages of affiliated schools of the education of both boys and girls. Speaking of female education, it gives us exceptional pleasure to have to mention the efforts of the Arya Samáj to bring married Hindu ladies within the reach of their influence. There are facilities for the education of unmarried Hindu girls in almost every Presidency and Province in this country. Hindu girls, however, marry early, say, between the age limit of nine and eleven, which is too tender an age for reflection or assimilation of knowledge. The Punjab Arya Samáj has, therefore, devised and brought into being educational institutions for married girls, who may have even reached unto maternity. Such an institution ought to be encouraged * * * * * * * * However, to return to the good work attempted and rendered and accomplished by the Punjab Arya Samáj, we shall cite yet one more instance of their efforts in the search of human distress in any form. Thus during the recent famines the Samáj rescued thousands of orphans. Its members went far and wide in their altruistic task of devotion. And here is a hint to the Christian Missionaries who secured the famine harvest of seventy thousand abandoned orphans from Rájpútána alone. The Arya Samájists sent student-volunteers to nearly every famine-stricken district in Rájpútána, the Central Provinces and elsewhere, to rescue orphans, and to bring them into the special homes prepared for the starvelings. Several hundreds of these unfortunate little ones were in due course returned to the parents and guardians, claiming them after the acute pangs of the famine had passed away. Here there was no attempt at proselytising. We simply mention this fact to our friends, the Christian Missionaries, in the hope that "Belly-Christianity," a word so familiar twenty years ago in the Southern Presidency, may be heard of no more. We may add that the Punjab lecturers in Calcutta have created an unfadable impression on the local Hindu community not so much by their eloquence, of which they had enough, as by their earnestness and conviction of speech. Mr. Lájpat Rái spoke on Thursday on the "Unity of Hindús." We do not see why Hindús should continue to be divided by sectarian differences. All Hindús believe in the supreme authority of the sacred Vedás. Their chief ceremonies are founded and conducted on the lines of Vedic injunctions and ceremonials. The Vedás are considered by all classes of the Hindús as the one Revelation to which they must inevitably submit, if their hopes of salvation are to be realised. Why should, then, the Hindús be untrue to the Vedás in comparatively minor social and religious affairs? We fail to see the consistency. We Hindús worship the Vedás; let us give them our whole

united and unstinted allegiance; and with the Arya Samáj, we believe, our cherished and unstinted allegiance be given; the Hindús will rise buoyant above the waters of despair, they will be true to themselves, and they will show and thus reap a *Karma* which shall exalt them above the nations of the earth as teachers and guides to men."

Sinhasa. 8. Commenting on the above, the Editor remarks as follows:—

"Bengal is one of those few provinces of India where the light of the Arya Samáj has not been carried. In the whole of Bengal there is not a single Samáj, if we except the Calcutta Arya Samáj, which itself wields no great power amidst the Society.

"The reasons why the Arya Samáj has not been able to take root in the Bengal soil are the extreme orthodoxy of the people, and the fact that the Founder of the Arya Samáj did not know the language of the Bengal masses, so his preaching in Bengal was not so widespread as in the Punjab and North Western Provinces and thirdly the literature of the Arya Samáj is confined to Hindi and Urdu for the most part, both these languages being unintelligible to the Bengalis. Swámiji's Satyárth Prakásh, the chief popular exponent of the views of the Arya Samáj, remained all this time unknown to the Bengalis on account of the same difficulty, and there was, lastly, our lethargy and indifference that never allowed us to turn our attention to Bengal.

"Now, however, there seems to be a change. Education has relieved the Arya Samáj of half the trouble of doing the negative work of shaking the beliefs of the people in their fantastic superstitions. * * * *

"The Brahmo Samáj, that moulded the ideas of young Bengal for some time past, has lost its popularity, for it is looked upon by the Hindús as a place of refuge for those who have been cast away by the Hindú society. * *

"It is time therefore that the Punjab, that has the credit of having rescued hundreds of orphans from the famine and saved their bodies, should come forward and volunteer to save the souls of her brethren of Bengal from falling a prey to Atheism or Indifferentism."

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad. 9. The *Hakam* (Kádian), of the 17th January 1903, publishes the concluding portion of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's discourse, in which he unfolded to Mr. Dickson his theory regarding the attainment of salvation (*vide* paragraph 15 of the Selections No. 1 of 1903). Continuing his remarks, the Mirza said that those who had exalted the son of woman to the dignity of God could know nothing about God or man. Indeed, observed he, Christianity was not only an insult to [illegible] faculties, but also constituted a dreadful obstacle in the way of their growth and development. He then declared that he had been sent into this world to teach even the lame way to avoid sin, and asked Mr. Dickson to inform his friends of this. Maulvi Muhammad [illegible], adds the Editor, acted as interpreter and endeavoured to impress on the traveller's mind the

points touched upon in the discourse. After Mr. Dickson had assured Mirza Ghulám Ahmad that wherever he went he would make known to Europeans what he had heard that day, the "Prophet" of Kádián remarked that the heat which could kill the bacilli of sin was to be found in Islám alone, and that the blood of no human being could destroy those noxious creatures.

The same.

10. The same paper says that political discussions have always been carefully avoided in its columns. The reason for this is that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and his followers wish to have nothing to do with politics. Indeed, the sole object of the Mirza's life is to engender in man's mind such a belief in God as to establish the kingdom of heaven on this earth. As, however, the peace and good-will, which "the promised Massiha" wishes to spread in the world, have also a political aspect; implicit obedience to the British Government is one of his teachings. Nay, the existence of friendly relations between the rulers and the ruled is, according to him, the best form of religion. The Editor adds that he intends publishing a series of articles with the object of showing what have been the political results of the claims put forward by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad. This, he says, is necessary in order to remove the misunderstandings which certain ignorant or mischievous persons are endeavouring to create regarding these claims. It will, however, be as well to state here that although certain false and nonsensical beliefs held by the Musalmáns opposed to the Mirza's mission will have to be exposed in these writings, this will be done with the object, not of making Government suspect the loyalty of these Musalmáns, but of removing the said beliefs, which have, by the way, led ignorant English writers to aver that the followers of Islám cannot be loyal to non-Muhammadan Governments. Indeed, the sole object of the articles will be to prove that Indian Musalmáns have as great a love for their present Government as for Islám, and that this love amounts to a religious duty in their case. The Editor then goes on to say that the appointment by God of the "Prophet" of Kádián to ensure the welfare of Musalmáns has raised two classes of opponents against him. One of the classes is represented by the *Ulemás*, while the other is composed of those wordly men, who keep aloof from the aforesaid beliefs and endeavour to do good to their co-religionists in secular matters. The misunderstandings raised by these opponents in regard to the Mirza—and that not through ignorance, but in a mischievous and devilish spirit—have compelled the Editor to write the projected articles. His object in doing so is to show Indian Muhammadans that the founder of the Kádián cult alone can safeguard their political rights and remove the aspersions cast on their loyalty. The second object with which the articles are to be written is to convince Government that the Ahmadís and their spiritual leader alone consider it a religious duty to be loyal and obedient to it. Incidentally the writings in question will also show that the claims put forward by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad have had the effect of cementing the relations between Government and Musalmáns. And if a Muhammadan should doubt the Mirza's professions even after this, Government would do well to take note of this feelings and ideas.

11. The same paper, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 14 of the Selections No. 41 of 1901), announces that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has decided to hold an examination of his followers on the occasion of the coming 'Id-uz-Zuha. Applications for admission to the examination should be sent to the Editor without delay in order to enable him to prepare a list of the candidates at an early date.

The same.

12. The same paper, of the 24th January 1902, reports that so far only a few applications have been received, and remarks that the necessary lists from the Mirza's followers in every city and town should reach the Editor by the end of February, when the same will be laid before the Khalífa of God.

The same.

13. The same paper says that, in obedience to the orders of the "Prophet" of Kádián, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh, author of the *Asl-i-Musaffa*, is about to undertake a tour, with the object of preaching the Ahmadi faith, establishing regular committees of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's followers everywhere, and collecting funds for the requirements of the said faith. It may be added that for the present money is required for the following objects :—

(1) Maintenance of the free kitchen and the press (? started at Kádián).

(2) Carrying on correspondence connected with the Ahmadi Mission.

(3) Supplying the wants of poor orphans, new converts to Islám and travellers visiting Kádián.

The Editor then goes on to say that another object of the projected tour is the extension of the means of spreading the Ahmadi faith. For instance, Mirza Khuda Bakhsh will ask his co-religionists to subscribe to the magazine which has recently been started to preach the above faith in Europe and America. He will also call upon them to support the *Hákam*, the weekly organ of the Ahmadi Mission.

The same.

14. The same paper says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's mission has proved beneficial to Muhammadans from a spiritual as well as from a secular standpoint. The Editor also feels confident that the Mirza will prove instrumental in cementing the relations between Government and Musalmáns, which would be certain to result in the bestowal upon the Prophet's followers of those great advantages, to secure which the Muhammadan Educational Conference and other similar associations have been ushered into being. It may be added that no true religion or reformer can have aught to say against a Government which throws no obstacles in the way of its subjects performing their religious duties.

The same.

15. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes Mirza Ghulám Ahmad to task for issuing his recent notice, alleging that Government is under obligations to him for endeavouring to wean Musalmáns from waging Jehád (*vide* paragraph 18 of Selections No. 50 of 1901). He adds that in these days of liberty and freedom the Mirza can

may whatever he likes, but that had he been living under the rule of an orthodox Muhammadan King, he would have been given a short shrift. The correspondent then ironically remarks that Government should ask the "Prophet" of Kádián to go to the Transvaal and induce the Boers to lay down their arms. Or, he should be sent to the frontier and asked to bring the Waziris to their senses. In case neither of these suggestions is adopted, he should be asked to banish plague and famine from the country. In conclusion, the writer observes that even if Mirza Ghulám Ahmad had really done any service to Government he should not have demanded payment for it.

VI.—Legislation.

The Bills recently introduced in the Punjab Legislative Council.

16. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1902, says that one of the Bills recently introduced in the Punjab Legislative Council is intended for the sole benefit of Government. The object of the proposed law is to provide for the forcible acquisition of pack animals, &c., in times of war. Of course the acquisition will not be effected in a *Sikhdshahi* manner, and reasonable remuneration will be paid to the owners of the cattle, &c., impressed; nevertheless nothing will prevent the impressment, and no complaint on the subject will be entertained. It may be added that some time back, Mr. Thorburn, late Financial Commissioner in the Punjab, complained so loudly about the hardships of *begár* as to make Government officers stare in surprise. The Editor is of opinion that the proposed law is intended to make *begár* legal and put an end to such complaints. He then reproduces Kanwar Sir Harnám Singh's remarks pointing out that the period of six weeks allowed for public opinion to be formulated and heard on so important a measure was insufficient. In conclusion, he publishes the substance of the Lieutenant-Governor's reply to the above remarks.

The same.

17. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1902, writing on the same subject, remarks that there can be no doubt that the motives of both Government and the Mover of the Bill are fair and above board, and that political necessities have compelled all Governments to pass similar laws. Indeed, so far, India was the only country in which, notwithstanding its being under a civilised and constitutional Government, old practices and usages were the only guide on the subject. The Editor, however, regrets to have to take exception to certain passages in the speeches about the Bill, and says that they contradict the Mover's statement that the *Zamíndárs* and cattle-owners in the Punjab had always gladly helped Government in times of war. The most objectionable of these passages, he adds, are to be found in the speeches of the Lieutenant-Governor and the Financial Commissioner. To Kanwar Sir Harnám Singh's objection that the period of six weeks fixed for obtaining public opinion on the measure was insufficient, the former replied that to invite the opinion of those to be affected by the proposed law—and they form three-fourths of the population—would be like ascertaining the opinion of the people as regards taxes to be imposed on them. In other words, His Honor considered it superfluous to

invite public opinion on the measure, and was supported by the Hon'ble Mr. Tupper who spoke in the same strain. After remarking that no Government can help passing such a law and that the principle underlying the Bill cannot be called into question, the Editor alleges that the residents of those countries, in which similar laws are in force, enjoy certain special concessions as compensation for the restrictions imposed upon them by the said laws. For instance, efforts are made to educate them and thereby fit them to understand the needs and requirements of their respective countries, with the result that they themselves propose measures for the defence of their lands or gladly acquiesce in the same. Quite reverse, however, is the case of the rural population of India. Let alone realizing the necessities of their country and making sacrifices for its defence, not one per cent. among them can read and write with tolerable ease. Nay, Government treats the people with such indifference that it does not care to ascertain their opinion even about important legislative measures.

The Editor then publishes a brief summary of the provisions of the Bill to provide for the inspection of Steam-Boilers, &c., and says that the law under contemplation is calculated to afford protection to workmen and add to the public convenience. It is true that the Bill empowers Government to interfere with the owners of the Boilers, &c.; but such interference is a necessity and has always been found so. Besides, a similar law has been in force in the North-Western Provinces for the last three years.

As regards the Bill amending the law relating to pre-emption in force in the Punjab, the Editor is of opinion that the amendment is necessitated by the Land Alienation Act. It has not, however, been made clear as to who will have preferential right to the purchase of land belonging to a non-agriculturist,—the collaterals of the vendee, whether they own land or not, or, in every case, the *Zamindárs* of the village where the land to be sold is situated?

The vacancy on the Punjab Legislative Council.

18. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th January 1902, suggests that the seat, which has fallen vacant on the local Legislative Council by the death of Rája Súraj Kaul, should be conferred upon Mr. Dhanjibhoy of Ráwalpindi, who, the Editor says, is in every way fitted for the honor.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153-A, Indian Penal Code.

19. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd January 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 4), reports that on the motion of Sáhibzáda Sultán Ahmad Khán, Barrister-at-Law, the case against Amíd-ud-dín has been transferred to the Court of the Deputy Commissioner. The Sáhibzáda also applied for the release of the accused on bail, but the application was refused on the ground that the facts of the case had not yet been laid before the Court. The Editor adds that in all probability the trial will commence in the beginning of February, and feels confident that justice will be done to the accused.

(b)—Police.

The prosecution of a Police Constable at Amritsar.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th January 1902, reports that some time back a case of theft was channelled to the Court of Thákur Mahán Chand, an Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner at Amritsar. In their statements the accused alleged that the case had been got up by certain persons, among whom was one Báwa Bishen Singh. As the Thákur considered it necessary to examine the Báwa on the point, the latter was summoned through the Police to appear in the Court. The relations and friends of the accused, however, induced the Constable detailed to take the man before the Magistrate, to make the summons serve the purpose of a warrant, and handcuff Báwa Bishen Singh. After remarking that the handcuffs were removed at a little distance from the Court-room, the Editor states that when taken before the Magistrate the Báwa complained to that officer about the unbecoming and insulting treatment accorded to him. As this, the Court itself was taken by surprise and after recording the statements of Bishen Singh and the Constable concerned ordered the prosecution of the latter. The Editor then expresses the hope that the local authorities, especially the Police Officers, will take necessary steps in the matter, with a view to preventing respectable people being disgraced in such a manner in future.

Brothels in Lahore.

21. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd January 1902, is gratified to learn that the local Municipal Committee has at last turned its attention to the brothels kept by certain immoral women in the city. A Sub-Committee has been appointed to take steps to remove the evil, and has already succeeded in tracing the whereabouts of one of the brothels. This house is maintained by a woman named Ganesh Dei, and the Sub-Committee has decided to prosecute the wretch. After expressing his approval of the proposed step, the Editor urges the Committee to continue its work and purge Lahore of all brothels. He then adds that Mussammát Jawáli keeps such a house near the Mission School, and suggests the institution of legal proceedings against this woman also.

(d)—Education.

The Amritsar Commercial School.

22. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th January 1902, remarks that during the time of the late Mr. Nicholl, the Amritsar Municipal Committee started a Commercial School which proved a success for some time. Later on, however, motives of economy induced the Committee to amalgamate the institution with the local Municipal Board School. But it is to be regretted that under existing arrangements the accomplishments of the objects with which the school was opened has become well-nigh impossible. In support of this assertion the Editor quotes the remarks made by the Inspector of Schools, Lahore Circle, on the subject on the 9th January last, and calls upon the Municipality to act on the suggestions of that officer.

23. In reviewing the last annual report of the Roorkee College the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 23rd January 1902, remarks as follows :—

The Roorkee College.

"Under the new rules confining the competition to natives or domiciled residents of Upper India, the field of selection has been considerably narrowed, all the other Universities excepting those of Allahabad and Lahore being practically excluded from the competition. On the other hand, the lowering of the status and emoluments of Engineers passed out of the Indian Colleges, by making the limits of the Provincial Service bound the scope of their ambition, has detracted from the attractions of the service for the best qualified of Indian students, such as used to compete for admission to Roorkee in former times. No wonder there is a fall in the qualifications of the students now gaining admission to the College, so much so as to make the Principal lament that there is a dearth of men to receive the instruction which the well-equipped resources of the institution can give. The Government policy with regard to the Indian Engineering Colleges in general, and the Roorkee College in particular, has been in effect, if not in intention, to shut out from them the best qualified students. And this policy has been pursued with such an evident ulterior purpose that we believe it is vain to hope even the complaint of the Roorkee Principal being able to make any impression on it."

24. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th January 1902, writing about the appointment of an Education Commission, alleges that should the teachers employed in schools under the control of Municipal and District Boards happen to be on bad terms with the members of the said bodies, they are denied promotions to which they may be entitled and for which they may have been recommended even by Inspectors of Schools. Again, teachers recommended for dismissal by the last-named officers, but happening to be in the good books of Municipal Commissioners, are not removed from their posts. After quoting an instance in support of this assertion, the Editor suggests that the best way for Government to remedy the evil is to place at least Board High Schools under its own control. He also objects to the existing manner of granting bonuses to teachers, and says that every schoolmaster who has been in service for a fixed number of years should be entitled to receive a gratuity. He concludes by remarking that the above points should be brought to the notice of the Education Commission when it visits the Punjab.

The Education Commission.

(c)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

25. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1902, says that the Government of India's Resolution on the assessment of the land revenue has proved beyond doubt that howsoever compassionate and good-intentioned the arbitors of "our" destinies may be, it is difficult, nay impossible, for them to cure "us." Indeed, a correct diagnosis of his disease is essential for the successful treatment of a patient; and this is possible only if the physician is, not only an experienced, able and sympathetic individual, but is also fully acquainted with the temperament of the sufferer. In the present case, however, the last qualification is conspicuous by its absence, and a correct diagnosis of the disease has therefore become well-nigh impossible.

Government Resolution on the assessment of land-revenue.

26. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 21st January 1902, after remarking that Public Prosecutors are forbidden to acquire land in their respective divisions, suggests that those who violate the rule should be transferred to other places In the event of their objecting to the transfer, they should be forced to resign their appointments.

Acquisition of land by Public Prosecutors.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

27. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 18th January 1902, remarks that although traffic between Montgomery and Pákattan is very heavy, only a kutcha road connects the two places. The Editor adds that if the District Board were to metal the road, it would confer a great boon on the public.

A suggestion to metal the road between Montgomery and Pákpattan.

(g)—Postal Matters.

28. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 25th January 1902, is gratified to learn that the Director-General of Post Offices has promised to take into consideration the question of reducing to 1 anna the rate of commission for money orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5. The Editor adds that the reduction will not only be welcomed by the public, but is also called for in the interests of justice and fair play, while it cannot decrease Government's income from the Post Office.

A proposal to reduce the rate of commission for money orders for sums not exceeding five rupees.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

29. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th January 1902, says that the plague is daily on the increase in Siálkot, especially in Miánápura, Mori Gate Mohalla and Serai Bhábarián The people seem to be greatly frightened and are fast leaving the city. Indeed, the panic is so great that no one approaches the bodies of those dying from plague. The Editor adds that the people are getting themselves inoculated through fear of death, and praises the Civil Surgeon, the Assistant Surgeon and the Hospital Assistant for their kindly and sympathetic treatment of those who present themselves for inoculation. He further remarks that although medicines are ordered to be dispensed at the local hospital up to 11 A.M., the officials named have been kind enough to extend the time to 4 P.M

The plague.

30. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 22nd January 1902, remarks that the unrest caused by the appearance of the plague in Lahore has greatly subsided. It would appear, adds the Editor, that an impression had got abroad in the city that the people were to be forcibly inoculated. How the report originated is not easy to understand, seeing that the authorities had done nothing to suggest the idea. Nevertheless, Lála Milkhi Rám, Vice-President of the local Municipality, and Muhammad Shahámat Khán, Chairman of the Sanitation Committee, lost no time in allaying the misapprehension and issued a notice emphasising the fact that no compulsion was used in connection with plague.

The same.

31. The same paper, of the 29th January 1902, says that some Punjábi versifier has pasted on the Mori Gate more queer verses denouncing inoculation and warning the authorities against plague inspections in the Mochi Gate quarters. Several persons have committed the verses to memory and go about reciting the same to the people. The Editor deprecates such occurrences, and calls upon both Hindús and Muhammadans to offer prayers and give alms as the best way to keep the city free from plague.

The same.

32. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 25th January 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 24 of Selections No. 1), alleges that the bubonic plague gains in virulence in dirty places. He does not, however, mean to say that only dirt leads to the spread of the disease and that cleanliness is the sole means of averting the evil. He advises the people to live in houses which are not damp and which allow free passage to light and air.

The same.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—7-2-02—70.

[Confidential]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 6.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

OF

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 8th February 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 6.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 8th February 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st January 1902, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
	Amount already acknowledged	7,525	5	4
1.	Mír Ahmad, Sub-Overseer, Gumat ...	5	0	0
2.	Munshi Rahím Bakhsh, Abkári Jemadár, Bhiwáni, Hissar District	2	0	0
3.	Received from the Sámi-ul-Núr Press, Agra	4	0	0
4.	Muhammad Fida Hussain of Ratni, Gaya District	1	0	0
5.	Munshi Bashír Ahmad, Attawah ...	0	2	0
	Total ...	7,537	7	4

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st January 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
	Balance in hand on the 24th January ...	444	0	0
1.	Received through Munshi Ghulám Muhammad Khán, Deputy Inspector of Police, Kharkhauda, Rohtak District	116	8	0
2.	Received through Sayad Pír Shah, of Bhatkheri	10	0	0
3.	Subscriber No. 188 to the *Watan* ...	1	0	0
	Total ...	571	8	0
	Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	1,072	3	0
	GRAND TOTAL ...	1,643	11	0

3. The same paper publishes a communication from its subscriber No. 188, who refers to the efforts hitherto made to collect subscriptions in India for the proposed Hedjáz Railway, and regrets that so far the results have been disappointing. He adds that he has come across quite a number of educated Muhammadans who had not so much as heard of the said railway. After remarking that this should afford an idea of the ignorance of illiterate Musalmáns on the subject, he suggests that the Ulemás should, in their sermons and at public meetings, make known the advantages of the projected railway and induce their co-religionists to give money for the work. The writer further suggests that the Prophet's followers in India should give annually Re. 1 each for the purpose till such time as the Hedjáz Railway has been constructed. He would make this appeal to the subscribers to the *Watan* in particular, and remits Re. 1 as his own subscription for the current Hijri year. He then goes on to say that gentlemen who subscribe to other newspapers should also remit Re. 1 a year to the offices of those papers; and states that as he takes in the *Vakíl* he has sent another rupee to the Editor thereof. In conclusion, he observes that the *Paisa Akhbár*, the *Curzon Gazette*, &c., should make a similar appeal to their respective subscribers.

The same.

4. A correspondent writing to the same paper remarks that the natives of India being forbidden to accept medals from the rulers of foreign countries without the permission of Government, the Porte should request the Government of India to allow those Indian Muhammadans, who help in the collection of subscriptions for the Hedjáz Railway, to accept and wear medals which the Sultán may confer upon them.

The same.

(*b*)—HOME.

5. "A Sepoy" writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd February 1902, says that the Imperial Service Troops have acquitted themselves creditably wherever they have been called upon to serve. He, however, regrets that neither Government nor the States concerned should have done anything to encourage them. After expressing dissatisfaction with the emoluments of the members of the said forces, the writer suggests that Government should introduce a system of exchange between the Imperial Service Troops and the British Army.

The Imperial Service Troops.

6. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that a correspondent complains that Kashmiri Muhammadans are not allowed to enlist in the army. Those of them, however, who represent themselves to be Awáns or Shekhs are accepted without demur. Indeed, this has helped hundreds of Kashmiri Muhammadans in gaining admission into the army and their superiors are wholly ignorant of their extraction. The writer adds that the Musalmáns in question being noted for their physique, stature and bravery, it is to the interest of Government to allow them to enlist. He then calls upon the local Kashmiri Anjumans to move the Government on the subject.

Kashmiri Muhammadans and military service.

Natives and Volunteering.

7. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st February 1902, suggests that natives should be granted the privilege of Volunteering on the occasion of His Majesty's approaching Coronation.

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

8. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st February 1902, in commenting on the memorial recently submitted to the Local Government by the Rája of Suket, remarks that His Highness has always mismanaged his State, and that he has failed to please his subjects or any of the Commissioners who have had to deal with him. It may be added that in 1891 Government had to depute Messrs. Smythe and Maynard to Suket, and that these gentlemen had to appease the Rája's oppressed subjects at the expenditure of thousands of rupees. The Editor further remarks that Mr. Anderson neither interferes in the administration of the State nor has he turned out any of its officials. He then deprecates the Rája's conduct in requesting Government to remove Suket from the supervision of the Commissioner of Jullundur, and defends the present Commissioner's action in asking His Highness to release one Titlu Rám, remarking that the man was kept a prisoner for about two years without having been formally tried. He also alleges that the statement that by putting up in the Dák Bungalow on the occasion of his last visit to Suket Mr. Anderson has humiliated the State, is mere throwing dust into the eyes of the public; for all Commissioners have always put up in this very bungalow. Besides, had Mr. Anderson stayed within the precincts of the palace, aggrieved State subjects would have had no access to him. It is of course to be regretted that he should not have alighted from his horse when he met the Rája. But this conduct on his part appears justifiable when one takes into consideration the fact that his host had received him only at the Dák Bungalow and not at Dhanotu, where he used to go to meet other Commissioners.

Baghat affairs.

9. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that the appointment of Political Agents in many a Native State has rescued people from the oppressions formerly practised on them. In those States, however, which are not under the supervision of Government, such maladministration prevails that the less said about it the better. The Editor then alleges that he has received a communication against the ruler of Baghat. The revelations he adds, made in this letter, are simply appalling and read like a chapter from the Arabian Nights. The correspondent alleges that during the absence of the Rája on a pilgrimage last month, Mián Híra Singh, who is an inexperienced young man, was left in charge of the State, when he committed several acts of injustice and oppression. The Editor promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

Tika Ranjít Singh of the Kalsia State.

10. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd February 1902, says that Tika Ranjít Singh, Chief of the Kalsia State, attained his majority some time back. Again, his qualities of head and heart place him on a level

with the heir-apparent of Nábha, while he has given entire satisfaction in the performance of the judicial work entrusted to him by the Commissioners. It is not, therefore, easy to understand why the Tika has not so far been invested with ruling powers. Presumably no one has thought it worthwhile to draw Government's attention to the matter. Indeed, on the occasion of the last Dusehra the Commissioner made some such confession and promised to get the Chief of Kalsia invested with powers of administration. The writer concludes by reminding that officer of the promise and calling upon him to look into the matter at an early date.

The Mahárája of Panna.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st January 1902, says that the Commission appointed to try the Mahárája of Panna and others has come to the conclusion that His Highness had a hand in the poisoning of his deceased uncle. The Commission has accordingly submitted a separate report to the Viceroy on the point, the contents whereof have not been made public. It is true that the Commission has passed no orders regarding the Mahárája; still there can be no doubt that, as is but natural, its report will greatly influence Lord Curzon's decision in the matter. The Editor has no mind to frustrate the ends of justice and would not have Government spare a really guilty person. Nevertheless, he cannot conceal the fact that, as a native, he will be grieved to see the Ruler of Panna suffer in connection with this shameful occurrence. He then requests the Viceroy to deal leniently by that Chief, and in deciding His Highness's fate not to lose sight of the pernicious influence of evil companions who always surround Indian Princes. His Excellency should also pay due regard to party spirit which has come to be very rampant in Native States. It is possible, observes the Editor, that the Mahárája's connection with the conspiracy to poison his uncle was only nominal, and that in reality the whole thing was engineered by those self-seeking darbárís of the old school who can find an asylum in the said States alone.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Lahore Anjuman-i-Numánia and the Nadwat-ul-Ulema.

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1902, publishes a report of Rája Muhammad Atta Ullah Khán's opening speech on the occasion of the last anniversary of the local Anjuman-i-Numánia. The report shows that, after giving a history of the Anjuman, the Rája proceeded to remark that the next stage through which the movement had to pass was that of trial and opposition. He added that it was the establishment of this society which had led to the birth of the Nadwat-ul-Ulema, and that the objects of both associations were similar. He also replied to the attack made against the Nadwa by Sir Antony MacDonnell, and suggested the establishment of closer relations between the two organizations.

The case against the Anjuman-i-Muin-ul-Musilmin, Lahore.

13. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1902, after referring to the prosecution and conviction of the originators of certain bogus marriage funds at Kunjpura, Karnál District, remarks that the case instituted against the

prisoners was of the same nature as that filed against the Anjuman-i-Muin-ul-Musilmin, Lahore. It is, however, incomprehensible why the latter case should have been allowed to drag on in the Court for such a long time.

The Muhammadan religion.

14. The *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 31st January 1902, publishes an article, the writer of which observes that the teachings of Muhammad are vague and uncertain, and that the division of Muhammadanism into numerous sects, each of which considers only itself in the right, is traceable to this cause. He adds that the said teachings are dangerous and pernicious in their influence and that they have so far proved beneficial to nobody and are likely to benefit no one in future. The writer further remarks that commentaries on the Qorán have only served to weaken the foundation of Islám, and that the various interpretations sought to be placed on certain verses in that book have led to the rise of 356 Muhammadan sects bitterly hostile to one another. He promises to show later on that the beliefs of these sects are dirty in the extreme from the standpoints of both reason and nature. He then ridicules Sayad Afzal Ali Khán, who ascribes the above state of affairs to that archenemy of man, Satan. The writer is of opinion that had Muhammad been a scholar and had he lived in the company of learned men, he would have founded a faith based on learning and reason, and Islám would not have been in its present plight. But as it is, the Prophet was illiterate and could neither understand himself nor make others understand theology or secular affairs. All he could do was to frighten men by brandishing the sword in their faces and by holding out various threats to his critics. As a consequence of this no dared raise objections to his teachings and everything remained unsettled, and this has led to the evil referred to above.

Misuse of religious endowments.

15. The *Ahluwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that enquiries should be made with a view to ascertaining if incomes from the *jágirs* granted by the pre-British rulers of India and generously continued by Government are spent on the objects for which the *jágirs* were originally granted. It may be added that *jágirs* yielding thousands of rupees are attached to a number of temples, dharmsálas, &c., but that the incomes thereof are usually wasted in pleasure and debauchery. As an instance in point, it may be stated that several Sardárs and Mahants in the Amritsar District enjoy *muafi*, but that the majority of them lead such a life that were it laid bare it would make Government stare in surprise. Should however, any complaint be made against these worthies, they bribe the subordinate officials concerned and the latter invariably contrive to mislead the authorities. The Editor then goes on to say that a certain Mahant of the Amritsar District who was once warned by the Deputy Commissioner to mend his ways on pain of confiscation of his *jágir* has not given up his immoral practices up to the present. He does not, of course, indulge in them on his *jágir*, but does so in secret in Amritsar.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153 A, Indian Penal Code.

16. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st February 1902, reports that the case against Amid-ud-dín came up for hearing before the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi on the 28th ultímo, the accused being defended by Sáhibzáda Sultán Ahmed Khán, Barrister-at-Law. After examining the District Superintendent of Police, the Court put certain questions to Amid-ud-dín, who stated that he had published the incriminating book from motives of business. Charges were then framed against him under Section 153 A and 292, Indian Penal Code, and the 5th February was fixed for the examination of his witnesses.

Judicial and executive functions.

17. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd February 1902, publishes a communication from "A Sepoy," who says that it is highly desirable that executive and judicial functions should be separated. He adds that the reform can be introduced without necessitating the least extra expenditure if Government will only order the following changes:—

(1) That District Judges should also be District Magistrates.

(2) That the Revenue Assistants under a Deputy Commissioner should on no account be invested with criminal powers, and that the remaining Extra Assistant Commissioners, as also Assistant Commissioners, in a district should be under, not the Financial Commissioner, but the highest judicial tribunal in a Province.

(3) That Tahsíldárs should be divested of their present criminal powers and empowered to try civil suits alone.

The correspondent further suggests that in future Honorary Magistrates should be appointed by examination.

(b)—Police.

Gambling in Amritsar.

18. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st February 1902, says that it is rumoured that Sir Mackworth Young has made certain enquiries from the Head of the Amritsar District Police regarding the prevalence of gambling in the city. The Editor is of opinion that His Honor's questions and the replies thereto should be made public, so that the people may know what steps are to be taken to remedy the evil. He adds that were Government to appoint a Commission to enquire into the matter some very strange revelations would be the result. He wishes to mention here that gambling is proving the ruin of Amritsar and that those who ought to put down the evil are subsidised by gamblers and their dependents. In conclusion, the Editor expresses the hope that the Lieutenant-Governor's moving in the matter will lead to the detection of the real offenders and not to the harassment and disgrace of innocent respectable people.

19. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that there are about a hundred brothels in Amritsar, and that the number is daily on the increase. These houses are kept by immoral women, through whom *Bádmashes* manage to dishonor any woman they like. As a consequence, cases of elopement are becoming common occurrences in the city and no family's honor is safe. The Editor then goes on to say that one of the brothels (nicknamed "Pakaurianwála") is situated near the *Lachman Sar*. He regrets that the rich Baniás in the vicinity should tolerate the nuisance, and calls upon them to request the Deputy Commissioner to order the closure of the house. He also urges the local Municipality to take steps to put an end to the existence of brothels in Amritsar.

Brothels in Amritsar.

20. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st February 1902, writing about the prosecution of one Amid-ud-dín of Delhi under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code, deprecates the conduct of the Editors of religious newspapers in using abusive language towards persons differing with them in faith. The *Paper* adds that such journalists will not give up creating feelings of ill-will between the various sections of His Majesty's native subjects unless they are bound down to mend their ways, the securities of those who repeat the offence being forfeited. The Editor wishes to mention here that in the majority of cases newspaper writers who insult faiths to which they themselves do not belong are men of straw* and resort to this objectionable practice in order to earn their bread. After remarking that such members cannot be a source of pride to the Musalmám community* he invites the attention of the leading Hindu and Muhammadan gentlemen to the matter, and exorts them to take steps to remedy the evil.

A suggestion to bind down the Editors of certain newspapers to keep the peace.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

21. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th January 1902, remarks that it has decided to expose the doings of Mr. Gardiner, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee, and that it will go on doing so till the Committee or Government take notice of the matter. The Editor will, however, confine himself to facts and will show that Mr. Gardiner is having everything his own way, and that he does not and will not care a straw for the Committee. That this is so will appear from the following incident: Last year one Dín Muhammad obtained a contract in connection with the *Ganda Nala*. Having come to know, however, that if the contract was sold by public auction a larger sum of money was certain to be realized, the Secretary got the contract cancelled on the 20th May by a resolution of the Municipal Committee. It may be added that for reasons known only to Mr. Gardiner no official intimation of this was given to Dín Muhammad. At all events, the decision induced several persons to bid at the auction and obtain the contract at higher rates. Strangely enough, however, after a time the Secretary again gave the contract to Dín Muhammad, although it was

Mr. Gardiner, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

* Apparently the reference is to the Editor of the *Anwar-ul-Islám* of Siálkot, who is being prosecuted for obscene writing.

with the sanction of the Municipality that he had got it cancelled. After promising to show later on why the officer named showed this favour to Dín Muhammad, the Editor alleges that Mr. Gardiner has given promotions to Mr. Silver, (?) Siráj-ud-dín (Accountant), Dina Náth (Treasurer), Ináyatulla and others without obtaining the sanction of the Municipal Committee. He adds that the enigma as to why the Secretary is usurping to himself unlimited powers is to be solved very soon. It may be mentioned here that he is spending large sums of money on the Lieutenant-Governor's visit to Amritsar, and almost all the work in this connection has been given to a certain Multani contractor. Indeed, so long as Mr. Gardiner is Secretary, other contractors should not hope to do any work for the Municipality.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The Government Resolution on the assessment of the land revenue.

22. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st January 1902, says that the Government Resolution on the assessment of the land revenue being in English, among the persons interested in it there is hardly one in a lakh who can become acquainted with its contents. Were, however, the Resolution translated into native languages its purport would become known to nearly the whole of the rural population. But there is little or no hope of this being done; for the Statesmen, who do not hesitate to spend crores of rupees in sending expeditions to the frontier in order to meet imaginary or real dangers, can not be expected to sanction the expenditure of a few thousand rupees for the purpose of making known to the general public the contents of a document, which deals with a question of abiding interest to a considerable portion of both the rural and the urban population, and which tries to justify Government's policy in connection with that question. As for Vernacular newspapers, none of them being devoted solely to agriculture can undertake the publication of a translation of this unusually lengthy Resolution without running the risk of offending its subscribers. When, therefore, the authorities do not care to give the *zamíndárs* even ordinary information about an important question, and when the latter are indifferent to their own welfare and the Press is powerless to render them any help, the agriculturists must be said to have fallen on evil days indeed. They can see better times, adds the Editor, only if they render themselves capable of voicing their own grievances. Messrs. Dutt and Wacha may have every sympathy with them; but, like Government's European as well as native servants, they are ignorant of the difficulties of the *zamíndárs* and the true remedies thereof. Indeed, let alone Lord Curzon (whose exalted position cuts him off from the people) and Mr. Dutt (who was a Commissioner for so long a time as to make him forget the experiences of the early part of his service), even Assistant Commissioners, nay Náib Tahsíldárs, who can secure every comfort on tours, can never realize the exact condition of the agriculturists or form a correct estimate of the expenses incidental to, and the income derivable from, agriculture. It may be mentioned here that even the employés of the Irrigation and the Settlement Departments, whose connection with the tillers of the soil is very close, possess only a superficial knowledge of matters pertaining to agriculture. As an instance in point, it may be stated that the method followed by the said officials to determine the average produce of land for the purposes of the assessment of the land

revenue is thoroughly defective, and that the averages worked out are nearly double the actual outturn. After challenging Lord Curzon, the Local Governments and Canal and Settlement Officers to refute the above assertion, the Editor observes that all servants of the Crown in India—from the Viceroy down to Assistant Commissioners—know little or nothing about agriculture. That this is so is evident from the fact that every European "expert" in the subject will, on being questioned, unhesitatingly reply that *châhi* lands are more profitable than *bârâni* ones and that Government should recover *abiâna* (? from the owners of the former). Indeed, he cannot help arriving at this conclusion, seeing that he examines the question only in a superficial manner. He takes into consideration only the money spent in sinking wells, the cost of maintaining bullocks and the wages paid to menials working on farms. He gives no thought to questions like the following:—"For how many years on an average is a bullock serviceable?", "How much money is spent annually in connection with wells?" etc. To make matters worse, should one attempt to enlighten him on the point he puts one off by saying that he has to take his tiffin or hold his court. The Editor adds that it is due to such ignorance on the part of both Government and its critics as well as to the silence of *zamindârs* and indifference to their occasional complaints that even voluminous reports fail to reveal the true state of affairs, and that the arguments put forward by the contending parties make well-informed agriculturists curse their stars. He then goes on to say that the Resolution under reference furnishes another proof of the truth of the foregoing statement. After referring to the ten propositions which the Government of India claims to have established in the Resolution, he asserts that it is not right to say that the policy of long term settlements is being gradually extended. Indeed, even the Anglo-Indian newspapers have been constrained to admit that facts tell quite a different tale, and that in every Province intervals between settlements are being gradually shortened and not lengthened. As regards the remaining propositions, most of them have already been dealt with in the series of articles recently published in the *Watan* on the subject of the land revenue assessment, and the Editor sees no necessity to change his views even in the light of Lord Curzon's Resolution. Nevertheless he knows that his is a cry in the wilderness, howsoever strong arguments he may have adduced in support of the position taken up by him. He wishes to mention here that the *Civil and Military Gazette*, which had so completely been demolished in the aforesaid articles, has of late been re-asserting its disproved propositions. The Editor does not like to repeat his arguments in this article; but he cannot help remarking that if the writings of the *Gazette* are left unchallenged at least the *zamindârs* will have to pay dearly for the silence. It should be remembered that Lord Curzon is of opinion that Government is entitled to half the produce raised by a landlord, while the Local Governments concerned have reported that in the Punjab and the United Provinces the land revenue is recovered at a lower rate. It is not, therefore, improbable that the writings of the Lahore Anglo-Indian daily may induce Government to make up this imaginary deficiency by enhancing the demand still further. The Editor adds that in order to avert the calamity it is very necessary that the *zamindârs* throughout the Province should submit respectfully worded memorials to Government on the subject. He

further remarks that his recent articles on the land revenue assessment should be printed in pamphlet form in both Hindi and Urdu and distributed broadcast among the *zamindárs*, with a view to enabling them to understand the question at issue.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Wretched condition of the road between Tran Táran and Amritsar.

23. The *Singh Sahái Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 29th January 1902, complains that the road between Tarn Táran and Amritsar is in a most wretched condition and that travellers are put to great inconvenience in consequence. The Editor adds that although the road is used by the District authorities, no steps have so far been taken to repair it.

A grievance of Booking Clerks on the North-Western Railway.

24. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 1st Febuary 1902, complains that counterfeiting coin is greatly on the increase in the Punjab, and that a large number of counterfeit coins are paid to Booking Clerks on the North-Western Railway. On receipt of the cash in the office of the Examiner, these coins are brought to light and the amounts represented by them are deducted from the salaries of the clerks concerned. After remarking that Booking Clerks are too poorly paid to afford such payments, the Editor says that the aforesaid officials allege that it is quite possible that all the counterfeit coins detected by the Examiner's office are not sent by them. Indeed, it is incredible that they should send such coins knowingly seeing that they know that the amount is to be deducted from their salaries. The clerks also demand that they should be required to replace only such coins as ordinary care and the "testers" supplied by the Railway Department can show to be counterfeit. This is, however, out of the question in the present instance, and the coins counterfeited in the Punjab cannot be detected even by expert cashiers. It is, therefore, unfair to expect overworked Booking Clerks, who are in a hurry at the time of selling tickets, to do so, expecially at night. The Editor concludes by calling upon the Manager, North-Western Railway, to look into the matter and do justice to the employés concerned.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

25. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 28th January 1902, writing about the appearance of the plague in Lahore, remarks as follows :—

"While we feel it our duty to point out to the authorities the dangers of a rigorous and *too* vigorous plague policy, we must also once more remind our intelligent and educated fellow-townsmen that we ought to show in every possible way that we are deserving of the confidence that our rulers have reposed in us. By leaving much of the working of the regulations in the hands or our own leading men, the *Sirkar* has unmistakably displayed its anxiety to do nothing that was in the least contrary to our inclinations and prejudices. No one, excepting a lunatic, would like all restrictions to be removed. Why, it is due to timely measures and precautions that the malady has been prevented from spreading in several populous centres, where a few cases, traceable to direct

contagion, have occurred. At Jullundur, for example, the infection was brought from plague-stricken towns in the district on two different occasions, but thanks to the usual measures, promptly taken, not a single case occurred other than the imported ones. If the people were left *entirely* to themselves they would simply leave everything to fate, and sit with folded hands awaiting developments with proverbial Oriental resignation. In Lahore the authorities have proceeded with the utmost care, consideration, and kindness. Nevertheless, the wildest canards have now and then been circulated, reflecting on the sense of responsibility of the local authorities. Every educated person in this city should make it his duty to explain the groundlessness of the stupid reports, do all that they can to reassure the minds of the ignorant populace, and to educate the latter, as far as possible, to a sense of the importance and indispensability of plague restrictions."

26. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that the bubonic plague is gaining in virulence in Siálkot and that an increase in the number of deaths from the disease has created quite a panic among the residents, who are migrating from the city in large numbers. This being so, adds the Editor, it appears desirable that the holding of fairs and social gatherings at Siálkot should be prohibited, so as to prevent the epidemic spreading further. After inviting the Deputy Commissioner's attention to the matter, he says that several students of the local schools reside in the infected *mohallás*, and suggests that the said schools should be closed for a time.

The same.

27. The *Koh-i-Núr* (Lahore), of the 4th February 1902, after referring to the increase of the plague in the Punjab, especially in Siálkot, observes that things seem to be assuming a sad and threatening aspect. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that the authorities are doing their utmost to save life and stamp out the epidemic. The Editor than praises Government for removing the rigour of the plague regulations and discontinuing interfering with the people in the suppression of the disease. He adds that the increase of the plague in spite of Government's efforts to the contrary would show that God alone can put down the scourge.

The same.

28. The *Mufid-i-'Am Gasette* (Siálkot), of the 1st February 1902, remarks that the increase of plague in Siálkot having created a panic in the city, the people, especially the families in which deaths have occurred, are in a state of great excitement. At this critical time, adds the Editor, everything should be done to lighten the hardships to which the relations of the victims of the epidemic are likely to be subjected. He then alleges that the road leading to the local cremation ground is *kutcha* and very dusty, with the result that the wood required for burning the dead cannot be carted over it, which is a source of great inconvenience to the Hindús. The Editor, therefore, urges the Deputy Commissioner to get the road metalled, as also to have the wooden bridge over the nullah crossed by the road repaired.

The same.

29. The same paper remarks that a large number of students reading in the Siálkot Schools come from the neighbouring villages, and that owing to the prevalence of the plague in the city their parents are always anxious for their health. Again, it is possible that these students may prove instrumental in spreading the disease to the said villages. The Editor, therefore, suggests that all the schools at Siálkot should be closed for two months and that no annual examination should be held in their case.

The same.

30. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a Supplement, dated 31st January 1902, remarks that two cases of plague having occurred in Shahpur, general uneasiness prevails in the town. The Editor, therefore, suggests that persons from plague-infected areas should be prohibited from visiting Khushab.

The same.

31. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 31st January 1902, suggests that the hearing of cases from plague-infected places pending in the Chief Court and the Financial Commissioner's Court should be postponed to distant dates; and remarks that this will prevent the parties from visiting Lahore and thereby endangering the health of that city.

The same.

32. The same paper remarks that persons from infected areas not being prohibited from travelling in the train it appears desirable that as a precautionary measure Railway carriages should be occasionally disinfected with phenyle, &c. The Editor adds that plague in a virulent form being prevalent in the Gurdáspur, Siálkot and Jullundur Districts, the authorities of the North-Western Railway should take particular note of this suggestion.

The same.

33. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 2nd February 1902, remarks that the withdrawal of orders forbidding the residents of infected areas to leave their homes has resulted in a further spread of the plague in the country. Indeed, if the present state of affairs continues much longer, the entire country will soon be in the grip of the disease.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 15th February 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Transvaal War.

1. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1902, remarks that the Transvaal War is still dragging its slow length along. Although the Ministry loses no opportunity of assuring the public that the struggle is to terminate very soon, the Boers show no signs of throwing up the sponge in the near future. Indeed, at a Council of War recently convened by Botha, it was decided that the Transvaalers should fight to the bitter end. If the present state of things, adds the Editor, continues much longer, the material condition of more than one country in Europe is likely to undergo a change. He further remarks that this war has proved to the world that India is thoroughly loyal to England. The Editor then deprecates the disability imposed upon native immigrants in South Africa, and regrets that neither Mr. Chamberlain nor Lord Milner should have so far done anything to remedy the evil.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th February 1902, remarks that activity displayed in the collection of subscriptions for the Hedjáz Railway in India has of late been on the wane, and that this state of affairs is calculated to dishearten those interested in the work. The Muhammadans of Bombay and the Deccan, adds the Editor, who are richer than their co-religionists in other parts of the country were expected to make handsome contributions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund, but they have belied the expectations formed of them. In spite of his strenuous efforts, Mulla Abdul Qayúm has succeeded in collecting only a small sum of money, albeit he has set a noble example of self-sacrifice. There can be no doubt that had wealthy noblemen responded to his appeals for subscriptions, the Fund would have increased rapidly. As it is, however, he has received subscriptions mainly from the middle class of Muhammadans, and hence the smallness of the amount realized. After remarking that the Muhammadans of Bombay, who are both wealthy and religious, may still breathe a new life into the movement, the Editor exhorts

the *Bombay Punch* to endeavour to rouse them to a sense of their duty in the matter. He then deprecates the conduct of the *Pioneer* and the *Hindustání* in ridiculing the Hedjáz Railway project, and calls upon the followers of Islám in India to remove all cause for blame which attaches to them in this connection.

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th February 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	571	8	0
1. Mián Ghulám Haidar	9	13	6
2. Hakím Muhammad Qáim-ud-dín, Sanawar	5	0	0
Total ...	586	5	6
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	1,072	3	0
Grand Total ...	1,658	8	6

The same.

4. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 7th and 10th February 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	7,675	7	4
1. Munshi Ala Bakhsh, Assam	8	0	0
2. Munshi Qásim Sullimán, Rangoon ...	20	0	0
Total ...	7,703	7	4

(*b*)—*Home.*

Natives and the Medical Service.

5. In the course of an article published in its issue of the 1st February 1902, the *Tribune* (Lahore), writes as follows:—

"For some years the Government of India have had under consideration the future of the Medical Services in this country. Some proposals have been sanctioned by which the cadre of the Indian Medical Service will be increased by some new appointments, but the method of recruitment will remain unchanged. As regards the subordinate branch of the Service, which comprises Civil Assistant Surgeons and Hospital Assistants, things will remain pretty much as they have been all these years. This is certainly very unsatisfactory. The various proposals that have been made from time to time by the public Press, or the Indian Medical Association—some of which were put forward in exceedingly well worded representations submitted to Government—have all been ignored. The complaint is growing that men of Indian birth and education are being pushed into the corner in every branch of the public service in this country. To be born and educated in India has come to be looked upon as a serious disqualification against

admission into the higher ranks of the public service—and in the case of men of purely Indian parentage the disqualification is allowed to become a positive prohibition. It has been laid down by the highest authority, both here and in England, that to certain appointments—and their number is by no means small—only men of British birth can be appointed. This doctrine is entirely subversive of justice and fair play, and is besides at variance with the principles with which the name of the English nation has hitherto been associated. Lay down any amount or degree of qualification, mental and educational, for particular appointments, but they must be such as are in the power of those aspiring for those appointments to acquire. Indians are ready and willing to go to Europe, and undergo heavy expense to acquire any professional or Academical training in order to qualify themselves for positions of trust and reponsibility in their own country. But they cannot change their place of birth, or nationality. We have been led to make these remarks by a perusal of the proceedings of the 8th anniversary of the Indian Medical Association of Calcutta." [Here follows an abstract of the President's remarks deprecating the exclusion of natives from the higher ranks of the Medical Service.] * * * Our countrymen do not want special favours. They are ready to stand by the result of a fairly conducted and open competitive test. If the Indian Medical Service competitive examination was held simultaneously in England and India, the Service would, we are sure, gain immensely in efficiency. The present arrangement prevents the pick of Indian Medical graduates from competing in the examination which is hedged in with vexatious and unnecessary conditions, and is held only in London. The best men of our Colleges are, as a Rule, too poor to afford the expense of an education and sojourn in England; and it is also well-known that the competition attracts only second or third-rate men in England. The number of competitors is seldom, if ever, three times the number of the vacancies announced. The arrangement is thus a very defective one, in addition to being a standing slur on the Indian people. * * * * * * The President of the Indian Medical Association, while emphatically protesting against the grievous injustice of the policy followed by the Indian authorities, advises an appeal to the English public and the Medical men of England. The Englishmen in England are, he says, very different from their countrymen in India. He is of opinion that an appeal to the British public might result in some good. We confess we are not very hopeful as regards the outcome of such an appeal. The Imperialistic tendencies of the present day Englishman have all but choked his instincts of justice, benevolence and fair play. But there is no harm in trying to adopt the suggestion. The appeal will be made by a delegate of the Association, who will visit England, address public meetings, and endeavour to enlist the sympathies of the British Press in favour of the demand of our countrymen for a fair and equitable treatment in the matter of the recruitment of the Medical Services in this country. The gentleman selected by the Association for this purpose is Dr. J. R. Wallace, who is well-known for his ability, enthusiasm and earnestness. Rái Lál Madhub Mukerjee spoke of Dr. Wallace's work

for the Association in terms of the highest praise. He pays his own expenses, and as he has a very lucrative practice in Calcutta, his absence from India will entail considerable pecuniary sacrifice. * * * * Rai Lál Madhub Mukerjee Bahádur made a suggestion to his countrymen as to how to bring the Government of India to reason. He advised the graduates of Indian Colleges to boycot the Government Medical Service, and to refuse to enter it on the present degrading and unsatisfactory conditions. It is quite true that this boycot would very soon open the eyes of the Indian authorities. But is it feasible on any appreciable scale? We think not. To carry any such endeavour to a successful issue would need a degree of co-operation and strength of character which we regret we cannot well claim for our countrymen. If they had the power and capacity to checkmate the designs of the ruling powers in the way suggested by the President of the Indian Medical Association the Government of India would, we know, soon learn to treat them properly, without their actually adopting the suggestion regarding the boycot of the Medical Service."

How to make India prosperous.

6. In an open letter published in the same Paper over the signature of "Hind," calling upon Lord Curzon to encourage the development of indigenous industries in India, the writer concludes as follows :—

"Until Your Excellency can induce the British people to grant to the people of India a considerable measure of protection and help for the revival of their defunct and dying industries, the growth and strengthening of such of their industries as they have recently recognized, but which are yet in their infancy; the introduction and adoption of such new industries as are necessary for their daily wants, but for which they at present rely solely on the foreign enterprize by a system of bounties and guarantees—there is little chance of the Indians ever becoming strong enough to resist the effects of these oft-recurring famines. Reimpose the cotton duties, remove the countervailing duties, introduce a system of generous bounties and guarantees for such of the industries as do not exist in India, but which are necessary for the daily life and occupation of an Indian, and help the Indians to take their foreign export and import trade in their own hands, and you will make the people strong enough to resist the famines howsoever frequent and severe, and relieve your Government from the necessity of every next day organizing colossal reliefs. Without this there is no remedy, to speak the truth. I am afraid my appeal may appear to some as rather selfish and much out of date. But, as already indicated, instances are not wanting even at the present, and in the West, where States have helped their people by such means to march abreast of their foreign competitors. Your utterances always breathe of broad and true statesmanlike sympathies. They have created a strong hope in my breast that I shall not be appealing to you in vain."

A native view of the British Government.

7. The same Paper of the 6th February 1902, publishes the following :—

"The return of the Court to Pekin and the gracious assurances from the Empress to the Ministers of the Powers remind us of a little story, which, however, has no direct bearing on the Celestial situation. Among the passengers in an intermediate compartment of a train in South Punjab was a Sikh Subadar-Major who was coming home after serving in the Chinese Expedition. He listened attentively while his fellow-travellers talked about the attitude and character of Englishmen in India. It may be mentioned that, as the weather forms the staple subject of conversation in England, the characteristics of the ruling race constitute the chief topic of talk in India. One said that if the *Sahibs* were not so distant and haughty they would be better liked. Another observed that Englishmen here were not so much concerned about the condition and prospects of the Indian gentry, as of the agriculturists, because they found the best part of the revenues. A third remarked that a time will come when the *shareef* (say, gentlemen) classes will disappear, and the population will consist mainly of labourers, mechanics of the journeymen type, and cultivators. A fourth held forth on the growing poverty of, and destruction of finer arts and handicrafts, in India. The old soldier opened his eyes wider and wider as he heard the usual sort of observations of his companions. At last, getting an opening, he burst forth :—' Throw into the fire all your criticisms. I say, if you had seen what I have been witnessing in China, you would go down on your knees, every one of you grumblers and pray Heaven that all Eastern lands may come under British rule, and thank the Almighty for sending the British to rule over us. Compared with other European nations (Ferenghis was the word he used) Englishmen are angels, as I found by actual experience in China. The poor Chinese were treated as earthen playthings are treated by children, by all other Europeans. Only Englishmen treated them as fellow-creatures. God bless them !' The old fellow subsided quite after this outburst, and no amount of argument would convince him that all Indians were as loyal to the British as even he could wish them to be, that grumbling was an art the British themselves had introduced in this country, and that criticism was no sign of disloyal feelings."

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 8 of the Selections No. 6), says that the displeasure of the Commissioner with the Raja of Suket does not proceed from motives of personal ill-will. The latter's *Sikhdshahi* doings, of which all the State subjects are complaining bitterly, are responsible for the estrangement between the said officer and the Raja. It may be mentioned here that even the Tika is full of complaints against His Highness. It would seem that while the former has a hankering after knowledge the latter hates the very name of education. It is for this reason that the Tika's efforts to induce his father to send him to the Aitchison College have so far proved futile. The Editor adds that the tutors employed for the young Prince are meant only to lull Government into the belief that the heir-apparent of Suket is being properly educated. That this is so, is evident from the fact

that these teachers are changed as frequently as the Raja's Wazirs. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that the money wasted by His Highness on obtaining charms, &c., should be spent in educating the Tika.

The same.

9. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1902, says that the Raja of Suket knows both English and Persian, and that he is a Prince of just and independent views. This spirit of independence is not, however, to the liking of the Commissioner, while His Highness cannot brook that officer's bringing pressure of any sort to bear on him. This has created estrangement between the two, and made the Commissioner hostile to the Raja, while the latter wishes to have Suket transferred from the supervision of the former. The result is that the matter has been brought to the notice of Government, and the parties are exerting themselves against each other. The Editor then expresses the hope that Government will display tact and caution in the settlement of the dispute.

The Raja of Faridkot and the Commissioner of Jullundur.

10. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th February 1902, is grieved to learn that an attempt has been made to prejudice the Commissioner of Jullundur against the popular Raja of Faridkot. A certain document purporting to have been written by His Highness has been laid before the said officer, but the former denies that it has come from his pen. At all events, the matter is a trivial one, and it is to be hoped that the Commissioner, who is an able and wide-awake officer, will not wound the feelings of the popular and loyal ruler of Faridkot by making a mountain out of a mole hill.

Bilaspur affairs.

11. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th February 1902, remarks that there seems to be something rotten in the State of Bilaspur. Indeed, several complaints on the subject have been received by Government as well as in the office of the *Hamdard*. The Editor then calls upon the Raja and his *Ahlkars* to look into the matter.

Kashmir affairs.

12. The same paper says that of late the plague has been gaining in virulence in Jammu, and that 8 or 10 new cases occur daily in the city. It is, however, to be regretted that the Maharaja and his officials, as well as Raja Sir Amar Singh, have gone away to live in the new palace at Ramnagar. The Editor derides the Ruler of Kashmir for thus leaving his subjects in the infected city to their fate.

The Panna Commission.

13. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1902:—

"Having taken upon its own shoulders the whole burden of responsibility connected with the painful Panna case, Government must be *very* careful in regard to the finding with reference to the poor Maharaja. Our humble suggestion was that, following the precedent of the Baroda business, a couple of the Prince's peers should be associated with the special tribunal appointed to help him to free himself from the odium of a foul suspicion.

We cannot help wishing that in respect to this miserable Panna affair, no room had been left for popular criticism and suspicion that the Maharaja had not had an absolutely fair hearing. Far be it from us to lend any sort of countenance to such a preposterous notion. In truth, the very fact that Government has accepted the entire responsibility in the matter, and has had the enquiry conducted and the results sifted by its own trained officers, ought to reassure the Maharaja's friends as to his getting the purest justice. But we have to do with an ignorant people, who to a man are sincere and disinterested well-wishers of their few fellow-countrymen who still possess the shadow, if not the substance, of royalty. The feeling which Indians—the masses as well as classes—entertain towards the Native Chiefs is something like the reverence and affection with which impoverished families regard relics which carry their imagination back to the days of splendour which will never return. We have often dwelt on the apparently strange phenomenon, the keen and touching interest with which even the lowliest Indians follow the fortunes, so to say, of Indian Highnesses. The misfortune of the Panna Chief, for instance, has excited genuine regret in the Punjab, and every one here wishes from the heart that he may come out unscathed. And we note that our Province is not singular in this respect. There is no part of India where every phase of the trial has not been watched with deep concern, and where the final orders of the Government of India are not awaited with the acutest suspense."

The Panna Commission and the Bengali Press.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th February 1902, remarks that it has on several occasions pointed out that the majority of the Bengalis will befriend their own kith and kin alone, and that they have no sympathy even for the Hindu residents of other parts of the country. That this is so, is evident from the attitude which the Bengali newspapers have thought fit to adopt in connection with the Panna case. Had even a Bengali *bania* or shopkeeper been subjected to the disgrace which has fallen to the lot of the Mahárája of Panna, they would have moved heaven and earth to prove his innocence. As, however, the Mahárája is not a resident of Bengal, and as, among the witnesses against him is a Bengali Bábu, Sri Náth by name, the said newspapers have not a good word to say for His Highness. And they cannot be expected to behave otherwise, seeing that in defending the Mahárája, they will be making out a Bengali—the Bábu aforesaid—to be a liar. They have, therefore, thought it wise to enter into a conspiracy of silence in regard to the Panna case. The Editor then holds up to derision Bábu Sri Náth for his conduct in making contradictory statements about the death of the Mahárája's uncle.

Application of Indian Princes.

15. In criticising the Gaekawar's article on the education of Indian Princes published in the last number of the *East and West* the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1902, remarks as follows:—

"The Gaekawar deals with the objection often made by our countrymen against the education of the Princes and their visits to Europe—that they

take to European habits of dress, food and manner of life—and he considers it frivolous. We do not agree with His Highness, for we know that there is a good deal in the objection in question. The anglicisation of the Indian Princes has worked a vast amount of harm and mischief. The Gaekawar says that 'a higher standard of living, adopted from nations more advanced materially, does not mean denationalisation. The essential thing is to have the welfare of the people at one's heart and not to lose the love of one's country. If a man has these two essentials, it does not seem to be of the first importance what dress he wears, or what he eats, or how he eats it.' His Highness here begs the question. If the two essentials referred to above were guaranteed in a Chief, it would no doubt be immaterial what his dress, habits and mode of life are. But it is the experience of most of our countrymen that the Princes who have adopted English style of living are generally those who care the least for their country and countrymen. There are many excellent virtues in an Englishman which the people of India, Princes as well as peasants, might advantageously copy. But we know, and are very sorry to have to say it, that in most cases the Princes of India, in imitating the Englishman, have imbibed most of his vices, leaving his virtues severely alone. This is the reason why we look upon with dread the adoption of the English dress, habits, and mode life by our Princes and ruling Chiefs."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Christian Missionaries and famine-stricken Hindu children.

16. One Kishan Singh writing to the *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1902, says that India has fallen on evil days indeed, and that her condition is growing from bad to worse. Scarcely had she recovered from the effects of the last two famines when she has been overtaken by another and a severer one. To make matters worse, the outbreak has taken place in a part of the country where only last year thousands of children had fallen into the hands of aliens and lakhs of human beings had perished from hunger and thirst. The writer then goes on to say that Christian Missionaries are already busy collecting famine-stricken children there, and exhorts the Hindús to gird up their loins in order to ward off this attack on Hinduism. He wishes to mention here that the methods adopted by the Missionaries to attain their end should make Hindús ashamed of themselves. These worthies, he alleges, are buying children like carrots and radishes at nominal prices. Again, they have caused it to be known that whoever collects illegitimate children (*fohsh santán*) for them, will be paid six pies per boy and anna one for a girl. After calling upon his co-religionists to do something to remedy the evil, the correspondent alleges that the children collected by the Nimuch Cantonment Police are made over to the Vakils of the States concerned. The last-named officials, however, send the children away, with the result that the latter are at once taken hold of by Christian Missionaries. The writer then remarks that the aforesaid States ought to feel ashamed of their conduct in thus making over their subjects to persons of a different faith.

The same.

17. The same correspondent writing to the same Paper of the 13th February 1902, says that Christian Missionaries are busy starting Orphanages in the Central

Provinces. He adds that it will be news to the public that such institutions are springing into existence even in the Hindu Native States in that part of the country. He then exhorts the Hindús, especially the Punjábi young men in the community, to be up and doing, and prevent Hindu orphans from falling into the hands of the enemies of their religion. The writer also suggests the despatch of deputations to different parts of the country with the object of collecting money required for the purpose.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad of Kádián.

18. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 31st January (received on the 10th February) 1902, publishes a report of a discourse by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, who says that Christ's idea regarding the atonement of the sins of mankind would show that the founder of Christianity was not even a Prophet. Besides vicarious punishment is not the true way to banish sinfulness from the world. Indeed, the present state of society in London and Paris, where sins of all descriptions are committed, affords sufficient proof of this. Again, adultery, which the Bible reprobates in the severest manner, is most rampant in the nations which believe that Christ has died for them. The Mirza adds that it is an article of faith with the Christians that Christ was cursed for their sake. "The cursed," however, signifies Satan, and an accursed person is one who is far from God and has nothing to do with Him. The accursed crucifixion (*lit.* sacrifice) of Christ, therefore, cannot help man to attain salvation. The "Prophet" of Kádián then goes on to say that the early Christians believed Christ—a weak man, who was born of an old woman like ordinary human beings—to be God. But at the same time they degraded him to such an extent as to represent him to have been cursed by God and thrown into *hávia* (hell into which the damned are precipitated). On the other hand, the Jews looked upon him as a bastard (which opinion is also shared by some Englishmen) and abused Mary. It was the Qurán which corrected the mistakes committed by both parties. It informed the Christians that the founder of their faith was a Prophet and not God, and that he had never been cursed. As for the Jews, it gave them to understand that he was not a bastard, and that Mary was a virgin and had had the holy spirit infused into her womb. The Mirza further remarks that similar misunderstanding exists about Christ in these days, and that he has been sent to remove the same. The followers of Islám, he adds, are ignorant of the manner of Christ's death and ascribe superhuman powers to him. On the other hand, Christians represent him as having been crucified and cursed. It is, therefore, high time that he were defended just as he was done by Muhammad. In conclusion, the Mirza remarks that Christ is under great obligations to the Muhammadan religion.

The same.

19. The same Paper says that of late the *Paisa Akhbár* has been endeavouring to prejudice Government against Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and his followers. In the first place, it alleges that the notice recently issued by the Mirza (*vide* paragraph 18 of the Selections No. 50 of 1901) brands seven crores of Indian Musalmáns (excepting the Ahmadís of course) as seditious. This is, however, a black lie on the part of the Editor of the said Paper. The notice refers to those Maulvís and Mullas alone, who expect the advent of a bloody,

Mehdi and hope to loot Government treasuries, &c., on that occasion. It may be added that these worthies form an exceedingly small part of the Musalmán population, and that they are never at a loss for pretexts to denounce as a *Káfir*, every one who condemns *jehâds* and inculcates loyalty to the British Government. Again, the individuals in question keep in their houses books enjoining the waging of religious wars, while their disciples are always busy intriguing on the frontier. After alleging that the great majority of Indian Musalmáns share the Mirza's views on the subject of *jehâds* and that the latter's writings could not, therefore, have given offence to them, the Editor says that those who believe in the advent of a bloody Mehdi can not be loyal to the present Government of India. That this is so will be apparent from a perusal of books treating of the subject. For instance, it may be pointed out that the following occurs in the *Hujáj-ul-Karámat* compiled by Nawáb Saddíq Husain Khán :—

P. 373—"Soon after his advent the Mehdi will slay so many Christians that those who are left will not have the courage to rule and govern, will be cured of the pride of power which fills their heads, and will run away disgraced." P. 374—"After this victory the Mehdi will invade and conquer India, and the ruler of the country will be brought before him with a halter round his neck. Besides, all Government treasuries and banks will be looted."

It may be mentioned that the *Iqtarâb-us-Sâyut* (p. 64) by the Nawáb's son says that "Europeans, who are the present rulers of this country, will probably retain this position till the advent of Mehdi, and that it is these who will be arrested and taken before him." The first-named book adds that "probably the fourteenth century of the Hijri era (the present century) will witness all this." Will the *Paisa Akhbár*, enquires the Editor, say as to what one should think of those who hold beliefs like the above? He then challenges the *Akhbár* to substantiate its statement that the waging of *jehâds* was condemned by the late Sir Syad Ahmad Khán and Maulvi Muhammad Husain of Batála long before Mirza Ghulám Ahmad. He further remarks that that Paper's conduct in branding the writings of a man of the peaceful intentions of the Mirza as inflammatory deserves to be called seditious; and expresses surprise that the *Paisa* should have nothing to say about the Maulvís who keep in their possession seditious books like the *Hujáj-ul-Karámat* and *Iqtarâb-us-Sâyut*. After remarking that the "Prophet" of Kádián has been denouncing the waging of *jehâds* for the last 22 years and that he has made it binding on his followers to follow his example, the Editor takes the *Paisa Akhbár* to task for insinuating that in the notice aforesaid the Mirza has asked Government to confer some title of honour upon him.

The same.

20. The same Paper in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 11 of the Selections No. 5) says that so far only a few applications for admission to the examination the Mirza intends holding of his followers have been received. The Editor adds that intending candidates should lose no time in sending their applications, as the same are to be laid before the "Prophet" of Kádián during the last week of February.

The same.

21. The same Paper says that Mirza Khuda Bakhsh, who is shortly to undertake a tour in the interests of the Ahmadi Mission (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 5), will first visit the Frontier Province. The Editor adds that at present a sum of Rs. 25,000 is required for the advancement of the objects of the mission, and that it should not be difficult for his co-religionists to subscribe this amount.

The same.

22. The same Paper announces that the erection of the minaret to be called the *Mindrat-ul-Masih* is to be taken in hand very soon. The bricks required for the work have been burnt and the foundations will be laid in a short time.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code.

23. The *Khair Khawdh-i-Hind* (Delhi), of the 12th February 1902, writing about the prosecution of 'Amid-ud-dín of Delhi under Section 153 A of the Indian Penal Code (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 4), reports that the accused has been sentenced to undergo imprisonment for three months and pay a fine of Rs. 200. The copies of the incriminating book found in his possession have been ordered to be forfeited.

Thákur Mahán Chand, an Honorary Magistrate at Amritsar.

24. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1902, remarks that it is rumoured that Thákur Mahán Chand, a local Honorary Magistrate, has for certain reasons decided to resign his appointment. It is alleged that things are being made hot for the Thákur owing to his having decided several cases against the police. The Editor adds that those who work for Government in an honest manner without being paid, should not be expected to murder their conscience in the performance of their duties and decide a case irrespective of its merits. Only those can do so who make their official work subservient to their own or their friends' private ends. Thákur Mahán Chand, however, is not only an honest Magistrate, but displays great ability and labour in the performance of his work. And if he does not side with the police in every instance, that is no reason why he should be ill-treated.

The Lahore Honorary Bench.

25. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 4th February 1902, remarks that the Lahore public seem to be of opinion that the post which has fallen vacant on the local Honorary Bench by the resignation of Rái Bahádur Gopál Dás should be conferred on Lála Rám Saran Dás, a Municipal Commissioner, the eldest son of the late Rai Bahádur Mela Rám. The Lála, it may be added, is a Viceregal Darbári and owns a Ginning and a Weaving Factory and is ever ready to serve Government and the public.

The same.

26. The *Rafik-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th February 1902, writing on the same subject, suggests that the vacant post should be conferred on Rái Gopál Dás' son Rái Naráin Dás, a retired Extra Assistant Commissioner. The Editor adds

that the appointment will give great satisfaction to the Lahore public, and that he has already drawn Government's attention to the claims of Rái Naráin Dás.

The Legal profession and the Judiciary.

27. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1902, says that not a few members of the legal profession have made it a rule to live on the most friendly terms with Munsifs, Extra Assistant Commissioners, &c. As soon as they have finished their day's work they hasten to the houses of the said officials, drive out and gossip with them till 10 or 11 in the night. They do all this, alleges the Editor, with the object of impressing on the minds of the litigating public that they have influence in official quarters and can accomplish great things through this influence. The result of this is that they obtain an extensive practice and make their aforesaid friends decide cases in their favour. Indeed, at present 90 cases out of every 100 are disposed of in this way.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

A complaint in connection with certain drains in a bazár in Lahore.

28. The *Koh-i-Núr* (Lahore), of the 11th February 1902, remarks that two or three drains in the bazár which run between the local Kotwáli and Sheránwála Gate and pass by the houses of Shahzáda Husain Ali and Diwán Attar Singh are so constructed that they are almost always full of stinking mud and water. Their existence is not only injurious to the health of the said part of the city, but is also a source of inconvenience to the blind and to children of tender age. The fact, however, that they lead to cart-bullocks being subjected to unbearable cruelty is still more objectionable. As is but natural the poor creatures find great difficulty in pulling carts over the drains, upon which they are beaten so mercilessly that not infrequently they measure their length on the ground. The Editor then calls upon the Local Municipal Committee to have the said drains set right.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the Land.*

The prevailing drought, the condition of *Zamíndárs* and the Land Alienation Bill.

29. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1902:—

"The winter rains, which are so necessary for the rabi crops, have failed. The average class of cultivators will be completely prostrated by this calamity, coming as it does on the top of a succession of bad seasons. The vast majority of them live a hand-to-mouth life. Till now they have somehow managed to make the two ends meet. But this unexpected drought must make even their stout hearts fail. They will have to obtain money for their domestic needs, for the preservation of their stock, and above all for the payment of the Sirkár's dues. Heaven knows, the number of agriculturists who, after handing over the Government demands, can retain sufficient money in their hands to live on till the next harvest, is very small indeed. Many have to eke out their income from their lands by extra earnings in various kinds of work. Formerly agriculturists made something by doing business as

carriers. The railway has closed that source of income, except in the interior tracts. Money *must* be found, but whence is it to come? Excepting from the poorest type of Banias, who must lend to live, the peasantry cannot procure even a few rupees anywhere else. The old established firms of rural *Sáhúkárs* have practically closed their business. They are employing their capital in the various new forms of commercial enterprise that we are getting to be familiar with. Taccávi loans and remissions will benefit but a very small portion of sufferers. What will the peasantry do then? This is the urgent and disquieting question everybody is asking . . . . . The *Civil* and *Military Gazette* has a very thoughtful and well-written article on the question. It is from the pen of one who has deeply studied and pondered the problem. The writer has laid the community under a debt of obligation by his timely contribution to the literature on the subject. The article shows in an incontrovertible manner that the Zamíndár does not borrow money only to waste it, and that under circumstances like the present many Zamíndárs *must* borrow, for 'they cannot stand the failure of one harvest, certainly not the failure of two successively.' The writer points out that 'litigation is often an absolute necessity' for the the Zamindárs, and litigation means money. 'For all landholders,' the article proceeds, "the great depreciation of land value that has taken place is an evil that no partial advantage can compensate; and to the small class of capitalists, who have hitherto lived by turning their money quickly in loan business, the Land Alienation Act must have been most injurious." It is hard to say who it is that profits by the measure. And the writer, it is worth noting, has litte hope that that the measure will be dropped on the discovery of its weak points in practice. 'The Government is not given to abandoning its measures' he observes pensively. But if it cannot *end* the Act, it must *mend* it, otherwise the remedy will prove more dangerous than the disease."

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Travelling Ticket Examiners on the North-Western Railway.

30. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th February 1902, approves of the proposal to increase the number of Travelling Ticket Examiners on the North-Western Railway, and says that in filling the new posts the claims of native Ticket Collectors should not be overlooked. The Editor also suggests the entertainment of native females to examine the tickets of native female passengers.

The road between Jagádhri town and Railway Station.

31. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 7th February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that several cases of dakaiti having of late occurred on the road between Jagádhri town and Railway Station—a distance of four miles—the people have been forbidden to use the road at night. This step has, however, entailed considerable inconvenience on the travelling public and should not have been taken at all. The writer suggests that instead of closing the road, a strong police guard should be detailed to watch the same at night.

(k)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

32. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th February 1902, says that the increase of the bubonic plague in Siálkot has spread quite a panic among the residents, and that they are fleeing from the city for dear life. Certain Municipal Commissioners have also deserted their posts and migrated to other places. The Editor adds that the Tahsíldár is the only officer who is doing his utmost to combat the epidemic. Unfortunately for the people, however, he is overburdened with Revenue and Judicial work. As for the Assistant Surgeon, he seems to be thoroughly indifferent to the spread of the disease. Besides, he is so afraid of plague as to be averse to leaving the precincts of the hospital. After praising the Civil Surgeon, Captain Hugo, for his kindly treatment of the people and his efforts in the matters of disinfection and inoculation, the Editor calls upon the local City Fathers to realize their duties in connection with the plague and make arrangements for the disinfection of each and every house in Siálkot.

The same.

33. The *Arya Gasette* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1902, after remarking that the plague is working havoc in the Jullundur, Hoshiárpur, Gurdáspur, Ludhiána and Siálkot Districts, and referring to the measures generally adopted to stamp out the epidemic, says that the daily performance of *havan* in every dwelling-house is calculated to prove of considerable help in attaining the end in view. The Editor adds that those who do not listen to advice tendered in a loving manner are scourged by the Almighty into learning the requisite lesson, and that the outbreak of the plague in the country is meant to teach the people to perform *havan* every day. He further remarks that a return to the religion of the Vedás and the performance of Vedic rites would be certain to put an end to the misfortunes of the natives of India.

The coming Imperial Assemblage at Delhi.

34. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 4th February 1902, suggests that all Viceregal Darbárís in the country, leading public men, representatives of different societies, title-holders and Editors of noted newspapers should be invited to the coming Imperial Assemblage at Delhi. Local Governments, adds the Editor, should be directed to commence the preparation of lists of such persons without delay.

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[Confidential.]

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

A Turkish Consul for Calcutta, &c.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 14th February 1902, says that last year a Maulvi, Munír-uz-Zamán, of Islamabad, published a communication in its columns requesting the Sultán to introduce Urdu in the curriculum of Constantinople Universities and appoint a Turkish Consul in Calcutta. Shortly after, the news was received that both requests had been favourably considered by His Imperial Majesty. But as this news was not confirmed for several months suspicions began to be entertained about its correctness. The Editor has now received a letter from one Sayed Abdul Haq which removes all doubts on the point. It may be added that the Sayed is the same Egyptian gentleman who accompanied Háfiz Abdul Rahmán to India, and after visiting Amritsar, Lahore, Hyderabad and other places recently went to Karáchi to embark for Mecca, but was too late for the pilgrim ship. He writes to say that Seth Háji Muhammad and Mullah Abdul Qayúm have been appointed Turkish Consuls in Karáchi and Hyderabad respectively, and that the necessary letters of appointment will be issued shortly. A Consul has also been nominated for Calcutta and will soon join his post. The Sayed further reports that the same honor has been conferred upon Lahore and that Muhammad Nafe' Effendi has been appointed first Consul in that city. This gentleman has already served at Tabrez and some other Persian cities in the same capacity, and is extremely hospitable and pleasant-mannered. He wears Turkish or Baghdad dress, and cannot speak or write English.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The same paper reports that the Sultán has ordered a number of Turkish soldiers to be employed on the Hedjáz Railway, and has directed that the construction of the line should be completed by the time the next season for pilgrimage comes round. He has also ordered the Governors through whose territory the projected Railway will pass to send Musalmán labourers to work on the line, and thousands of workmen have already been despatched. Again, he has issued a "firmán" directing all his Musalmán subjects to subscribe the value of the hides of the animals sacrificed by them on the occasion of the coming 'Id towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund. It is to be hoped that

Muhammadans throughout the world will follow the example of their Turkish co-religionists. The Editor also suggests that well-to-do Muhammadans who are in the habit of sacrificing large number of animals on the said occasion should kill one or two animals only and contribute the price of the rest towards the Fund. He wishes to mention here that such a large number of animals are sacrificed at Mecca on the 'Id day that even $\frac{1}{1000}$th part of them are not eaten, the carcasses of the rest being buried in ditches. Were, however, the price of the animals so sacrificed paid towards the cost of the construction of the proposed Railway it would greatly facilitate the end the Sultán has in view. After expressing the hope that the Sharíf of Mecca and the Governor of the Hedjáz will look into the matter, the Editor says that all unserviceable weapons, &c., stored in Turkish forts have been ordered to be sold and the sale proceeds credited to the Hedjáz Railway Fund. He then exhorts Indian Musalmáns to emulate the example of their Caliph and do their utmost to make the project a success.

The same.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th February 1902, also writes in a similar strain and praises the Sultán for not granting the contract for the construction of the Hedjáz Railway to any non-Muhammadan Company.

The same.

4. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	7,703	7	4
Shamsher Khán, Khánsáma, Jagdalpur ...	4	0	0
Total ...	7,707	7	4

The same.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 14th February 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 7th February ...	586	5	6
1. Received through Shekh Ghulám Ahmad, Proprietor of the Ice Manufactory, Ludhiána	46	0	6
2. Háji Qudrat-ullah, Ráís, Patiála ...	85	13	0
3. Received through Hakim Sayad Abd-us-Samad of Bhiwánígarh	27	10	0
4. Received through Bábu Ahmad-ud-dín, Accountant, Canal Office, Rasúl, Gujrát District	64	0	0
5. Qásim Yusafbhái, Merchant, Rangoon ...	5	0	0
Total ...	814	13	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,887	0	0

6. Commenting on the above, the Editor says that formerly, as soon as the amount of subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund received in its office reached Rs. 600, the same used to be remitted to Turkey at once. He, however, wishes to delay the remittance of the next instalment for a special reason. He adds that the Sultán has divided subscribers to the Fund into three classes, and that those who contribute £100 or more will receive gold medals from His Majesty. It is, therefore, the Editor's wish that the next remittance from the office of the *Watan* should not be below £100, so that those who subscribe through his paper may, at least collectively, become entitled to receive a gold medal. He has over Rs. 800 in hand, and it should not be difficult to collect the full amount of Rs. 1,500. He cannot, however, delay the remittance for long, and if the extra money required is not forthcoming by the 31st March next he will remit whatever funds he may have in hand at the time. He, however, trusts that his co-religionists will not give him cause to regret the postponement of the remittance.

The same.

(b)—Home.

7. The following is published by the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th February:—

The Calcutta Memorial.

"Lord Curzon's Note on the Victoria Memorial Hall, a substance of which we have already published, is striking as well as disappointing reading. It is striking as displaying Lord Curzon's versatile genius to be as much at home in the domain of art as in that of politics or literature, and it is disappointing because the conclusion arrived at is that the Indian memorial of the late Queen Empress will have very little Indian about it. The design will be foreign, the architect will be imported, and the best part of the materials will come from Italy and Greece and not from the quarries of Jaipur and Jodhpur. The worst part of the situation is that, however much such a state of things may be undesirable, it cannot be avoided. Lord Curzon's arguments, if not palatable to the heart, appeal to the business instincts of the head, and can only make us wish that the Queen's memorial for India had been so designed as to be not only a thing of beauty, but also a means of practical advantage to the country. As it is, one cannot rise from a perusal of Lord Curzon's Note without feeling a sense of oppression in the breast; for a good part of the half a crore of rupees subscribed for the memorial, mainly by Indian Princes and people, will go to enrich designers, architects, and marble dealers in Europe. * * * * It cannot be denied that the conclusions arrived at by His Excellency with regard to the style, site, and material of the building are all disappointing from the point of view of Indian sentiment. As the *Pioneer* observes: 'All this may follow logically from the original resolve to have a memorial of this kind in Calcutta; but so much the worse for the original resolve.'"

III.—Native States.

8. The *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 14th February 1902, remarks that the Panna case has thrown an interesting sidelight on the morale of Hindu society and its leaders. The Mahárája's statement shows that he wished to

The Panna case.

have a prostitute "purified" in order to enable him to marry her, and that he was assisted by Brahmins in the matter. Nor is this all. One of the witnesses examined by the Commission alleges that the Brahmins of Panna do not object to her joining them in prayer and other religious observances. Now, even if Haidri Ján, *alias* Ráni Kawal Kaur, is a Hindu by birth, still it cannot be denied that she used to eat with Musalmáns and practise the profession of a prostitute. It is, therefore, interesting to enquire if the Brahmins had purified her for any public good or because she wished to lead the life of a Hindu. The Editor adds that the sole object of the "purification" was to afford the Mahárája an opportunity of gratifying his lust. Were, however, the self same Brahmins asked to "purify" a Kayasth, Bania or Rájpút convert to Islám desirous of re-entering Hinduism, they would assuredly refuse to do so. The Editor then goes on to say that the shameful disclosures made in connection with the Panna case show how a man has to tell hundreds of lies and resort to fraud in order to throw a veil over a single wicked deed. He adds that only pain and unhappiness can reign supreme in a country where the rulers set bad examples to the people.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Jesus Christ.

9. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 7th February 1902, says that the newly started Christian Monthly, the *Taraqqi*, publishes an article from the pen of the Bishop of Lahore, who in 1900 declined to enter the lists against Mirza Ghulám Ahmad. The text of the article is John XV, 5 and 7, and the Bishop asserts that in these verses is to be found the characteristic which distinguishes Christianity from other religions and forms the key-stone of that faith. The Editor, however, hopes to be able to show that the characteristic in question weakens the cause of Christianity, clashes with Divine laws as well as with the grandeur and greatness of God, and denotes a want of Divine knowledge on the part of Christ. He adds that the occurrence in the Bible of similes containing references to the vine would show that Christ was very fond of wine. Indeed, the very first miracle wrought by him was the turning of water into wine, which latter liquor he has not forgotten even in heaven. It may be added that probably it is this which has led his followers to make such progress in drinking that if the wine shops in London (which are not closed even on Sundays) were placed in a row the line would be 75 miles in length. If *this* is the distinguishing feature and main prop of the Christian religion Mr. Lefroy's discernment is praiseworthy indeed. The Editor then goes on to say that Christ's injunction—"If ye abide in me, and my words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you"—is a gauge of Christian life. Should, therefore, no Christian be able to afford practical proof of its truth the inference will naturally suggest itself that neither do his followers abide in Christ nor do his words abide in them. Indeed, they should know that the foundations of the tabernacle, in which the worship of the dead takes place, have already become hollow and shaky. The Editor further remarks that a man who has taught "ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you" must have been wholly ignorant of Divine laws and the theory of prayer; for it is impossible to obtain from God whatever one may ask for. It may be mentioned here that a perusal of the story of Christ's life as disclosed in the Bibleshows

that only such teachings could have been expected from the founder of Christianity. Besides, the fact that he was crucified, although for a whole night he wept and prayed to God to let the cup of death pass from him, exposes the absurdity of the teaching under reference. In short, from whatever point of view John XV, 7, is examined, it seems to go against Christianity. If, however, it contains a truth, then the existing Christianity must be a fraud. The Editor then ridicules the Bishop of Lahore for boasting that no other prophet has preferred a claim like that contained in the above verse, and says that other prophets and lovers of truth could not have included such absurdities in their teachings. The Bishop further says that with the exception of Christ all prophets have promulgated God's commandments and attracted men to Him alone. But this is as it should be. And if one born of woman (who came into this world through the usual passage after subsisting on menstrual blood for nine months; did not possess an exemplary moral character; was liable to human weaknesses and wants; could not be called a great man from the standpoint of intellect, piety or Divine knowledge; used to receive beatings from the Jews; and who in the end was cursed and crucified) attempted to attract mankind to himself instead of to God he was justly punished by the Jews.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad.

10. The *Arya Musáfar Magazine* (Jullundur), for December 1901 (received on the 14th February 1902), says that of late every number of the *Hakam* has been full of "inspired" gossip and "apostolic" coquetry. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that in the said Paper's issue for the 30th November last Mirza Ghulám Ahmad spins a long yarn about his being a prophet and claims to be an incarnation or the *alter ego* of Muhammad. It is, however, interesting to note that in the same breath he enunciates the proposition that no one who has not had to flee from his place of birth can lay claim to prophethood. According to this test, therefore, the Mirza cannot be a messenger from God, seeing that although he is on the wrong side of sixty he has not yet migrated from Kádián. It is high time then that his followers looked into the matter and did something to prevent their spiritual guide's labours from being thrown away. Of course if the Almighty has made an exception in Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's favour in respect of *Hijrat* that is quite another thing. As it is, however, the Mirza has not so far enlightened the public on the point, although it is quite possible that the publication of this article may prompt him to play some trick now.

The Editor then goes on to say that it is only the Vedic religion which teaches that the sole object of marriage is the production of healthy and religious offspring. Islám, it may be added, does not so much as touch on the point, let alone laying down definite instructions on it. Indeed, a perusal of the Qurán, the Traditions and the Muhammadan Law, as also a cursory examination of the lives led by the prophet and his companions, successors and followers leaves no room for doubt that, according to the Muslim faith, the real object of marriage is the gratification of animal passions. It is for this reason that polygamy is not only allowed in Islám, but is also looked upon as the highest boon which that religion can confer on its followers. Nevertheless, in the *Hakam* of the 30th November last Mirza Ghulám Ahmad makes bold to

assert that the principles on which Islámic polygamy is based partake of the character of piety. He argues that if a man's first wife is sterile or suffering from some dangerous disease, there can be no objection to his taking a second wife unto himself. Indeed, the Mirza alleges that when wives are informed of God's commandment on the point (? "your women are your fields and you may go into your fields howsoever you like") they themselves induce their husbands to marry a second time, should this be necessary. It would, however, have been better if the "prophet" of Kádián had referred to some tradition or some verse in the Qurán in support of this startling assertion. Besides, was it from motives of piety that Muhammad married Zainab, or nine-years old 'Aisha, while he had several other wives living? Again, was a desire of possessing children his sole reason for taking unto himself about 15 wives, in addition to a number of concubines? The Editor adds that the Mirza's reasoning should lead to the inference that should a woman's husband be incapable of begetting children she should be at liberty to marry another man.

He further remarks that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has been so conducting himself as to suggest the idea that he disapproves of *jehâds*. This is, however, only a clever piece of strategy on the Mirza's part; for those who have studied the literature of Islám even in a cursory manner must be aware that *jehâds* are the life and soul of that faith, and that so far it has been propogated by means of religious wars alone. The Editor then ridicules the "prophet" of Kádián's pretension that he has been denouncing the waging of *jehâds* for the last 22 years, and remarks that had the latter the power he would put every Arya, Hindu and Christian to the sword. He also calls upon Musalmáns to give up the savage practice in question, just as they have thrown overboard several other objectionable usages. Perhaps they are afraid that Islám, divorced from *jehâds*, would soon become a thing of the past. But what necessity is there for an Islám which desecrates the sacred names of both religion and God by spreading bloodshed and rapine in the world?

11. One Abdul Karím, writing to the *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 24th January 1902, takes exception to the tone of the above, and remarks that those whose faculties have been blunted by a belief in the doctrine of *niyog* cannot be expected to behave like gentlemen. Indeed, nature has so made man that the development of his faculties is greatly influenced by his religious convictions. And it is for this reason that idolatry and its concomitants—*niyog* and other similar doctrines—have rendered the asses, who worship stones, &c., incapable of realizing the truth. The writer adds, that but for the fact that the foregoing article is calculated to mislead simple-minded persons, he would have ignored the mean writer in the *Arya Musáfar Magazine*. He then ridicules the last named individual's remarks about polygamy, and says that the prevalence of the practice in all civilized nations of ancient times, as well as among the reformers of mankind, would show that it is a natural instinct in man. It may be added that man is naturally inclined to pleasures and enjoyment, nay, were this not so, life would not be worth living. To say, therefore, that the production of healthy children is the sole object of marriage is tantamount to saying that the functions of the eye and the ear are merely to see and hear respectively,

The same.

and that these members of the human body are dead to all sense of grace and beauty. Consequently, marriage is meant for the gratification of certain other wants of man also, and hence the necessity for polygamy. It may be mentioned here that those who do not practice polygamy have to resort to adultery in order to gratify their passions. The correspondent then criticises the doctrine of *niyog* and says that being unable to put up with the dangerous teachings of the Vedas the earth has consigned those unclean books to oblivion. He also endeavours to show that it is wrong to say that the Muhammadan religion has been spread in the world by means of the sword.

The same.

12. A correspondent, writing to the *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána) of the 14th February 1902, says that a Maulvi Fazl Haq, of Abbott-abad, has recently given out that he has been appointed a deputy of Christ and commissioned to expose Mirza Ghulám Ahmad. After reproducing a notice in which the Maulvi prefers this claim and challenges the Mirza to a controversy, the writer remarks that it is doubtful if the "Prophet" of Kádián will take up the gauntlet. That worthy should, however, remember that, should he decline to do so, it will have the effect of making him look small in the eyes, not only of Muhammadans, but also of his own followers. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the Ahmadís will compel their spiritual guide to accept the challenge and face Maulvi Fazl Haq. The correspondent then ridicules the Maulvi's pretensions and says that there is no truth in them.

Polygamy.

13. The *Arya Musáfir Magazine* (Jullundur), for January (received on the 14th February) 1902, says that during the Dark Ages, when women were looked down upon and treated as chattels, gratification of lust was the chief object of marriage. It was then that polygamy began to be practised; and the man who possessed the largest number of wives was regarded as occupying the highest position in society. The Editor adds that voluptuaries have caused the greatest bloodshed in the world, and quotes instances from sacred as well as profane history in support of his assertion. He further remarks that it was polygamy which necessitated the *pardáh* system and reduced women to the position of prisoners. Again, uncivilized institutions like divorce, *halála* (re-marriage of a woman with her first divorcer after she has been divorced by her second husband) *muta* (temporary marriage) and the sale of concubines also owe their origin to the same cause. It is polygamy, moreover, which has led its defenders to invent a heaven peopled by *houris* and *ghilmáns* (lads who attend on the virtuous in paradise) and assign 72 *houris* to each of its male inmates. Truly has a pure-hearted Muhammadan said :—

"How can the devotee who worships paradise be a worshipper of God?

"He is dying after *houris* and is a worshipper of lust."

Muhammadan prayers.

14. The same Paper in criticising Maulvi Sana Ullah's *Nimáz-i-Arba* (*vide* paragraph 18 of the Selections No. 12 of 1901), says that the ulterior object of the

Prophet in introducing the Muhammadan form of prayer was to raise a large army. Indeed, the adoption of different postures in saying *Nimáz* was meant to serve the purpose of drill; and the plan proved so successful that in a short time it brought a large number of soldiers round Muhammad's banner. It is, however, to be regretted that this had the effect of hurling the founder of Islám into the abyss of worldly desires, and making him resort to bloodshed, *jehâds*, plunder, &c. After alleging that the Christian form of prayer affords greater insight into the attributes of God than *Nimáz*, the Editor remarks that there can be no doubt that the latter contains an invocation to the Almighty to guide the suppliant into the path of righteousness. But it should be borne in mind that this righteousness consists in waging religious wars, slaying the children and females of one's enemies, looting those who do not acknowledge Muhammad to have been a messenger from God, killing inoffensive animals, &c., &c. Again, the *Nimáz* refers to Non-Musalmáns as "accused and misguided," which does not harmonise with a contemplation of God. The Editor also takes exception to the reference to Satan in the said form of prayer, as also to the coupling of the Prophet's name with that of the Lord of the Universe. He further remarks that were *Nimáz* a revelation from on high, it would not have contained an injunction from God requiring the faithful to pray to Him for blessings on Muhammad, his descendants, &c. Indeed, could he not have rewarded the founder of Islám of his own accord? Besides, have not the innumerable supplications asking Him to do justice to the latter been granted up to the present. Or is it that they also are to be disposed of on the day of judgment? If this is so, it is undoubtedly very hard on Muhammad, seeing that, according to *Nimáz*, Abraham and others have long had their rewards. If, however, the Prophet has already been rewarded and the sole object of the supplications is to induce God to make that reward permanent, they should cease as soon as the end in view has been gained. The Editor would also like to be informed of the present whereabouts of Muhammad's descendants, blessings on whom are also invoked in *Nimáz*. Have their disembodied spirits, he enquires, like those of other followers of Islám, to wait for entry into heaven till the last day, or has their extraction led God to make an exception in their favour in this respect? If the former is the case, *Nimáz* should be acknowledged to be inefficacious; while in the latter case the theory regarding the day of judgment should be admitted to be defective and unreliable. The Editor then goes on to say that Maulvi Sana-ullah asserts that the Qorán affords the only means of finding God. This is, however, special pleading with a vengeance. The world is far older than the said book, and the merciful God could not have kept the light from the early inhabitants of the earth. Indeed to assert that the necessary instructions for the attainment of salvation were not revealed in the very beginning of this world is tantamount to accusing God of heartlessness and cruelty.

15. One Yogindar Pál, an Arya Preacher, writing to the same paper, alleges that Muhammad used to worship the Black Stone, which, he says, is the image of one of the seven principal deities of the early Persians. After quoting certain traditions and verses from the Qorán in support of the allegation, he asserts that the Prophet held the belief that one could have one's sins forgiven by

Muhammad and idolatry.

touching the said stone and that this belief is shared by his followers. The writer adds that the world does not stand in need of Muhammad or the Qorán, seeing that both teach the worship of the Black Stone. He then exhorts Musalmáns to throw the aforesaid book overboard and embrace the Vedic religion. Indeed, he remarks, nothing can be more objectionable than that they should stick to teachings which have made them deviate from the right path.

A new plan to secure converts to Islám.

16. A "Preacher," writing to the *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 14th February 1902, says that Indian Muhammadans having thought it politic to throw *jehád* overboard, they are hard put to it to devise means for the preservation of their religion. Neither have their preachers been able to achieve anything, nor is it now possible to make voluptuaries embrace Islám by giving them slave girls. Again, there being nothing divine about the said faith, it is difficult to attract people to it. This state of affairs, adds the Editor, has led to a proposal to lure "greedy dogs" into the Islámic fold by means of bread; and a Háfiz Muhammad Yúsaf of Amritsar has established an association—the Anjuman-i-Hámi-i-nau-Musalmán—with that object. Indeed in a notice issued by him the Háfiz announces in plain language that arrangements will be made to supply the wants of those converts to the Prophet's religion who have no means of earning their livelihood. The Musalmáns, observes the writer, should feel ashamed of this Islám, and should remember that such juggling cannot prevent the collapse of their faith.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153 A., Indian Penal Code.

17. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th February 1902, reports that Amíd-ud-dín, who was charged under Section 153 A., Indian Penal Code, has been sentenced to undergo imprisonment for four months and pay a fine of Rs. 300. Shamasul Ulemas Maulvi Nazir Ahmad and Munshi Zaka-ulla, Maulvi Abdul Ahad and Maulvi Muhammad Husain Fakír (author of the incriminating book) were cited as witnesses for the defence, but the summons could not be served on the last named two persons. It was stated on behalf of the accused that he was illiterate and wholly ignorant of theology.

(b)—Police.

Dakaiti in Jagádhri Tahsíl.

18. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 15th February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that on the evening of the 4th idem two residents of Mauza Buría were on their way back from Jagádhri attacked by dakaits near the village and eased of Rs. 125 and two gold ear-rings they had on their person. Later on the same night a Mahájan, who was going to his village in a *Bahli*, was looted by the same dakaits at a distance of about two furlongs from the Jagádhri Tahsíl Office. The writer then calls upon the Deputy Inspector of Police, Jaádhri, to give special attention to these cases of dakaiti.

19. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, remarks that for some time past counterfeit five-rupee currency notes have been in circulation in several cities, and that they are so cleverly executed as to be indistinguishable from genuine ones. The Editor adds that recently a local postman named Ghulám Mustafa was arrested on a charge of using a counterfeit note knowing it to be such. After preliminary enquiries the City Magistrate committed the accused to take his trial before the Sessions Judge. The case came up for hearing in the Court of the latter officer on the 6th idem, the accused being defended by the Editor. In the course of the trial, the Judge read out from the City Magistrate's findings a sentence to the effect that an attempt had been made to convert the case into a Hindu-Muhammadan question, and enquired from the Editor what was meant by this. The last named individual replied that not having been present in the lower Court he could not say with certainty what had prompted the remark. He, however, added that most probably the fact that all the witnesses for the prosecution excepting the Post Master of Lahore were Hindús, while those for the defence were Muhammadans, might have led the Committing Magistrate to make the remark. The Editor then went on to say that he was opposed to the practice of making racial questions out of ordinary occurrences. He concludes by remarking that the accused was acquitted by the Sessions Judge on the 8th instant.

Counterfeit five-rupee currency notes.

(d)—Education.

20. The *Paisa Akhbár* Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, remarks that some time back one of its correspondents suggested the desirability of holding the next session of the Muhammadan Educational Conference at Delhi on the occasion of the coming Imperial Assemblage. It is gratifying to learn that the suggestion has been taken up in earnest, and that at a meeting of the leading Musalmán residents of Delhi it has been decided to invite the Conference to hold its next meeting at Delhi. The meeting was presided over by Maulvi Nazír Ahmed and Náwab Mohsin-ul-mulk, and Hakím Muhammad Ajmal Khán also took part in it. It was pointed out that it would not be easy to secure accommodation for the delegates on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage. The fact, however, that almost all the Musalmán *Ráises* will be present in Delhi at the time and that perhaps the Nizám might be induced to take the chair decided the meeting to overlook this difficulty. The Editor adds that a local Committee has been formed with Muhammad Wásil and Hakím Muhammad Zahír-ud-dín Ahmed Khán as President and Vice-President respectively, Khán Bahádur Sheikh Iláhi Bakhsh and Sayad Sultán Mirza being appointed Secretaries. He also learns that the Committee's invitation regarding the holding of the next session of the Conference at Delhi has been accepted.

The Muhammadan Educational Conference.

21. Lála Munshi Rám, writing to the *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), of 14th February 1902, says that the adoption of certain plague measures at the Hardwár Railway Station has led the Pratinidhi Sabha to abandon the idea of inviting the public to witness the

The opening ceremony of the Gurukul.

opening ceremony of the Gurukul, and that consequently the function will be only a "private" one. This change of programme was duly notified through the *Arya Patrika* of Lahore, and it was hoped that the Aryás would give up the idea of visiting Hardwár on the said occasion. The Lála has, however, received numerous letters the writers of which wish to be enlightened as to the meaning of a "private opening ceremony." He merely wishes to state in reply that all that is meant is that no invitations have been issued in connection with the coming ceremony, and that the Pratinidhi Sabha is not in a position to spend any large sum of money on the entertainment of guests. Indeed, so far, the Sabha has received only about Rs. 250, and this amount will merely cover the fares, &c, of the teachers, students and employés of the Gurukul from Gujránwála to Hardwár. The Lála then publishes a programme to be observed on the occasion in question, and says that the ceremony will be performed on the 24th March.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A suggestion for the employment of watermen at stations on the Wazirabad-Lyallpur line.

22. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th February 1902, complains that no waterman is to be seen at stations between Wazirabad and Lyallpur, and that this is a source of great inconvenience to both Hindu and Muhammadan passengers. The Editor, therefore, urges the District Traffic Superintendent to make arrangements for the supply of drinking water at the stations in question.

(g)—Postal Matters.

A complaint in connection with the combined Post and Telegraph Office at Bhera.

23. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in its Supplement dated the 14th February 1902, remarks that the local combined Post and Telegraph Office receives telegrams for transmission only from 7 to 8 A.M. and from 12 noon to 5 P.M. This arrangement entails considerable inconvenience on persons having to despatch telegrams before or after the hours named. Again, the location of a Sessions Court in Bhera has brought nearly a dozen Barristers and Pleaders to the town and effected an increase in the number of telegrams despatched from it. The expansion of the local trade in grain is also tending the same way. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the Telegraph Office should be made a 2nd Class one and ordered to be kept open from 7 A.M. to 9 P.M.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

24. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, publishes the following:—

"It would appear as if, failing to check the progress of the plague by all their devices, the authorities in India and their friends have agreed

to a conspiracy of silence and a policy of inaction in the matter. The readers of our 'Local' columns must have noticed that the cry comes from almost everywhere in the Punjab that the Municipal Committees are indifferent, although plague is in their midst. As we remarked a few days ago, such a policy of inaction, the leaving of everything to the people, may be too much of a good thing. It is right on the part of the authorities to pursue a policy of non-interference, but the policy should not degenerate into one of plain *indifference*. To leave things to the people is a good thing, but the authorities must take the initiative in matters sanitary and show the people what to do. We have been led to make these remarks because there are signs that the indifference we have referred to has not merely overtaken the Punjab, but appears to be spreading as much as the plague itself. The disease has been for some time raging in the Allahabad city and district, but the *Pioneer*, which is always full of news from all parts of the world, is as silent on the question of plague at its own head-quarters as if everything was going on as smoothly as ever. From the pages of the Allahabad daily no one would suspect that there was a state of things in and around that city to justify the following telegram published in the *Morning Post* of Thursday last. The telegram is headed:—"TERRIBLE RAVAGES IN THE ALLAHABAD DISTRICT.—TANKS FILLED WITH DEAD.—THE CITY DESERTED."

25. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, says that if the bubonic plague succeeds in obtaining a footing in Lahore, it would be certain to spread throughout the Punjab, for this city, being the capital of the Province, is visited by people from all parts of the country. It may be added that owing to the plague rules having been made very light, about seven thousand persons from Jammu, Siálkot and other infected places have recently migrated to Lahore, and that there is great fear of the epidemic breaking out in the city. The Editor therefore urges the Deputy Commissioner either to stop all communication between the plague-stricken areas and Lahore or to take steps to ascertain whether the arrivals from the former places are not likely to develop plague.

The same.

26. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 15th February 1902, suggests that the hearings of cases parties to, or witnesses in, which are residents of plague-stricken places should be held postponed till the disease is stamped out in the said places. After remarking that lists of infected areas are available in all District Courts, the Editor says that the attention of District Judges and Collectors should be invited to the matter. He further suggests that Government should issue a notification directing the postponement of the disposal of all Civil and Revenue cases pertaining to plague-stricken *ilákas*.

The same.

27. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 12th February 1902, under the heading "The Assam Commissioner snubbed":—

Mr. Cotton, the Assam Tea planters and Government.

"It is seldom that the Government of India publicly snubs the head of a Local Government, though it might be satisfied of his administration being at fault. But the outcry against the present Chief Commissioner of Assam has been too strong for the observance of this implicit rule, and the agitation against Mr. Cotton has borne fruit in more ways than one. That official retires almost immediately, as the furlough which he takes is only preliminary to his final retirement, and insinuations have not been wanting connecting Mr. Cotton's long leave with the planters' agitation raised against him. Now, replying to a memorial of the Indian Tea Association, in which it expressed its dissatisfaction with certain of the views expressed by the Chief Commissioner of Assam in the Annual Labour Immigration Report for the year 1900, the Government have sent in a letter which will go a long way in satisfying Mr. Cotton's vilifiers. But it is quite a question how far such a document, which has received full publicity—and of which contingency Government could not be ignorant when drawing it up—is consistent with the truest interests of public administration and whether the example set will not prove a dangerous precedent, striking at the very root of official independence and threatening the officers of Government with the bugbear of popular agitation."

28. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, says that it has received from a vaccination employé a communication containing serious charges of dishonesty against an official of the Sanitary Department. As, however, the correspondent has also addressed the Civil Surgeon, Lahore, on the subject, the Editor abstains from entering into details at present. Nevertheless, he would suggest that if on enquiry the Civil Surgeon finds the allegations to be true, legal proceedings should be instituted against the official complained against. Otherwise the said officer should ascertain from the complainant the nature of the proof he can produce in support of his complaints.

A complaint against an employé of the Sanitary Department in Lahore.

29. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th February 1902, remarks that it is generally complained that every Tahsíldár and Náib Tahsíldár, while out on tour, takes only one chair with him with the result that *kurshi nashins* going to see these officials have to remain standing. The same treatment is meted out to the gentlemen in question in the court of the officer named. After remarking that this state of affairs is derogatory to *kurshi nashins*, the Editor remarks that if the evil is due to the fact that every Tahsíldár or Náib Tahsíldár is supplied with only one chair, the supply should be increased to ten. If, however, *kurshi nashins* are intentionally treated in the above manner, Tahsíldárs and their Náibs should be warned to mend their ways.

The treatment accorded to *kurshi nashins* by Tahsíldárs and their Náibs.

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 9.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 1st March 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Great Britain and her dependencies.

1. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th February 1902, remarks that it appears from one of Lord Salisbury's recent speeches that Great Britain will never again weaken herself by granting self-government to her dependencies. Indeed, the recent events in South Africa have clearly shown that this policy is harmful to her best interests. Her relations with Ireland also teach the same lesson (*sic*!). The active sympathy displayed by leading Irishmen with the Boers is causing grave anxiety to the Ministry, and in the speech referred to above, the Premier had to admit that the Emerald Island was a source of danger to the British Empire. The Editor then goes on to say that Government has displayed great wisdom in protecting India against external aggression and internal disturbances. He also congratulates Government on the formation of the Imperial Cadet Corps, which, he thinks, is certain to prove a useful factor in the defence of the country. He adds that it is quite on the cards that natives will shortly be allowed to enrol themselves as volunteers on certain conditions; and remarks that if this is done, the permanence of British rule in India will be secured once for all. The Editor further remarks that Government should place full reliance on natives and thus enable them to prove of use to it.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 19th February 1902, publishes the following paragraph:—

"Those who have been working of late on behalf of the proposed Hedjáz Railway and those who have been watching its progress with deep interest will be glad to learn that it is contemplated to expedite it, so that within a year the line up to Medina may be completed. As was announced the other day, in our column for Turkish affairs, the number of men working on the line has been strengthened, urgent orders have been issued to Governors of dominions to accelerate work on the line by sending men from their respective territories to join the sacred cause of completing this line. Every district officer has been asked to prepare a list of persons in his jurisdiction capable of helping the construction work and to divide the total number thus obtained into several classes asking each class in turn to contribute to the construction of the

Railway. Gentlemen who have taken special pains in collecting subscriptions for the Hedjáz Railway are being awarded gold, silver and nickel medals by the Sultán, in consideration of their disinterested services and in proportion to their exertions. In India, Mulla Abdul Qayyum, of Hyderabad, is the first person to be honoured with a gold medal. Haji Muhammad Yusaf Ismail, of Rangoon, also gets a gold medal and Shaikh Yusaf Ali and Mirza Ahmed Ali, of Calcutta, have been favoured with silver medals."

3. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 17th and 21st February 1902, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :— The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	7,707	7	4
1. Received through Munshi Abdul Azíz of Cawnpur		49	8	0
2. M. Azíz-ud-dín Amír-ud-dín, Shawl Merchants, Nawáb Ganj	...	1	0	0
3. Jemadár Núr Khán, Hong Kong	...	24	3	0
4. Khán Bahádur Kázi Jalál-ud-dín, C.I.E., Political Adviser to the Khán of Kelát		100	0	0
Total	...	7,882	2	4

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st February 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :— The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 21st February	...	814	13	0
1. Received through Miáns Maula Bakhsh and Muhammad Alam, Ludhiána	...	120	8	0
2. Received through Muhammad Ismail Khán, *Ráis*, Manela, Ambala District		20	0	0
3. Received through Hakam Muhammad Abdur Razzáq, of Payál	...	6	0	0
4. Received through Shekh Sajjád Husain, Vakíl, Bárábanki ...	...	58	14	0
5. Háji Muhammad Faizi, Head Draftsman, Allahabad ...	...	25	0	0
6. Maulvi Muhammad Saddíq, through Mián Maula Bakhsh, Book-seller, Ambala City ...	...	10	0	0
7. Shekh Kabír Ahmad of Karáchi (in response to the appeal published in the *Watan* of the 31st January,—*vide* para. 3 of the Selections No. 6	...	1	0	0
Total	...	1,056	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	2,128	6	0

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

The late Amír and his army.

5. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 21st February 1902, after referring to the demand of certain regiments of the Afghán Army for an increase of salaries, remarks that if the new Amír gives way it is to be feared that the state of affairs, which the Sikh Soldiery brought about in the Punjab after the death of Maharája Ranjít Singh, will be repeated in Afghánistán.

III.—NATIVE STATES.

Sukpt affairs.

6. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1902, says that writing about the relations between the Rája of Suket and the Commissioner of Jullundur the *Tribune* of the 7th January last remarks that the Rája is a hardworking prince, that his subjects are happy and contented, that the finances of the State are in a prosperous condition, and that the worst remark that has ever appeared about the Rája in official papers is that he is too energetic. The Editor does not wish to controvert this statement, but will merely remark that the articles published in newspapers representing both sides of the question will show what truth there is in it. As to the Commissioner asking the Rája to release Titlu Rám, the Editor will revert to the subject at some future time. He adds that the *Tribune's* complaint that, by putting up in the dák bungalow on his last visit to Suket, Mr. Anderson afforded the State subjects an opportunity of complaining against their Chief, clashes with the statement that they are a happy and contented lot.

The same.

7. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), dated 16th February 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 8 of the Selections No. 7), remarks that formerly the Rája of Suket used to complain to Government against the Commissioner of Jullundur by letter and telegraph, but that now he has sought the help of the press. It may be added that Mr. Anderson's request to His Highness to release one Titlu Rám was perfectly justifiable, nay, that officer deserves praise for not having brought official pressure to bear on the Rája in the matter. After remarking that only a few months after his accession the Ruler of Suket had his two uncles expelled from the State by using a forged letter, the writer of the article says that His Highness is ever ready to take away the honor of his relations and the poor.

Patiála affairs.

8. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th February 1902, reports that plague is greatly on the increase in Patiála and that seizures have occurred even among the well-to-do residents of the city. As a consequence of this, every street and *Mohalla* seems to have gone into mourning, and *Hakims* and *Vaids* are driving a roaring trade. It may be added that the practice of posting Police Constables to keep an eye on infected houses and stop all communication between the inmates and the outside public has alarmed the residents still further. After remarking that the State authorities should invite the co-operation of the people in the suppression of the epidemic and that the Police should have no hand in the matter, the Editor suggests that Patiála

should be divided into 50 wards, each being in charge of a headman, who should reassure the people and submit reports of fresh cases. He further suggests that for purposes of medical aid the city should be divided into four wards to be placed in charge of competent doctors. The drains should also be kept in a cleanly condition and disinfectants used freely.

Kashmír affairs.

9. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th February 1902, writing on the outbreak of the plague in Jammu, alleges that the State authorities having left the residents to themselves, the disease began to spread to all parts of the city. Indeed the disease increased so rapidly that the Mahárája and his brother and court officials lost no time in leaving Jammu, and their example was soon followed by the general public, so much so that the city has already been denuded of ¾ths of its population. It may be added here that the efforts to induce the people to get themselves inoculated have also proved abortive owing to His Highness and his courtiers having failed to set an example in this respect. After remarking that the failure to stop communication between the residents of the infected areas and the outside public had led to an increase of plague in Kashmír, the Editor goes on to say that the Musalmáns believe that calls for prayers uttered in a loud voice on the roof of houses had the effect of abating plague. The Musalmán residents of the villages adjoining Jammu acted up to this belief. Their Hindu neighbours, however, among whom have occurred a larger number of cases of plague than among the Muhammadans, inferred from this that the calls were meant to confine the effects of the plague to the Hindu community. Consequently, they tried to prevent Musalmáns from uttering the calls and this led to riots in several places.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Hindús and Musalmáns of Kerána, Muzaffarnagar, North Western Provinces.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the relations between the Hindu and Muhammadan residents of Kerána (Muzaffarnagar) became strained on the occasion of the last Bakar 'Id, and that feeling between the two communities has since been running high. He adds that the fact that the local Deputy Collector, Tahsíldár, Thánedár, Munsif, Postmaster, Peshkár and Doctor are all Hindús is causing anxiety to the Musalmáns. He would, therefore, call upon the Commissioner of Meerut and the Collector of Muzaffarnagar to look into the matter and take steps to prevent the parties from quarrelling on the approaching 'Id day. He does not, however, mean to insinuate that the Hindu officials aforesaid are not to be trusted or that they were at the bottom of the mischief last year.

Christian Missionaries and famine-stricken Hindu children.

11. One Kishen Singh, an agent of the Ferozepore Orphanage, writing to the *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), dated 16th February 1902, makes remarks similar to those recently published by him in the *Arya Gazette* (*vide* paragraph 16 of the Selections No. 7), and exhorts Hindús, especially the journalists in the community, to do something to prevent famine-stricken Hindu children from falling into the hands of Christian Missionaries.

12. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 20th February 1902, says that a perusal of the letters written to it by Sardár Kishen Singh from Neemuch (*vide* paragraphs 16 and 17 of the Selections No. 7) is calculated to send a shiver through one's frame. The Editor adds that the Christian Missionaries' zeal in propagating their religion is known to every well-informed person. It is, however, to be regretted that in their zeal they overstep all bounds and do not care what means they adopt in the attainment of their end. Is not there a world of difference, asks the Editor, between Christ, who teaches his followers to turn their left cheek to the smiter on the right, and the Missionaries who are forcibly taking possession of Hindu girls in the Neemuch *ilaka*? He, however, adds that it is the Hindús' selfishness and love of lucre which has so emboldened the said worthies. But were the Hindús once convinced that it is their duty to protect their faith and co-religionists, no earthly power could withstand them. The Editor concludes by urging the Hindús to shake off their lethargy and realize what attempts are being made to wipe them off the face of the earth.

The same.

13. Sheikh Ghulam Haidar, English teacher, Board School, Chakwál, Jhelum District, writing to the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th February 1902, ridicules Maulvi Abdul Karím's statement that the objects the Nadwat-ul-Ulema has in view can be attained through the instrumentality of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad alone (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 1). The correspondent adds that when the Mirza cannot make his own followers observe the Islám prevalent in Arabia and when several of them have to study English laws in order to make a living, it is idle to expect the "Prophet" of Kádián to influence the entire Muhammadan population of India. The facts that the worthy in question possesses a very short temper, does not hesitate to fall foul even of Government and is in need of money for his requirements strengthens the writer in this opinion.

The Nadwat-ul-Ulema and Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

14. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 14th February 1902, remarks that the *Paisa Akhbár* follows the shameful policy of crying down Mirza Ghulám Ahmad in season and out of season. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that in publishing a notice resently issued by one Fazl Haq (of Abbott-abad who has given himself out to be the Deputy of Christ), the *Akhbár* heads it as "There is a Moses for every Pharoah!" This, it may be added, affords proof of inherent baseness on the part of the Editor of the said paper, and betrays the ill-will (characteristic of Mullas) he bears the Mirza. After finding fault with the former for publishing a favourable review of the newly started Christian Monthly—the *Taraqqi*—the Editor alleges that the *Paisa* declines to publish rejoinders to its attacks against the "Prophet" of Kádián. He further remarks that if the Editor of the newspaper in question does not mend his ways, his pride may have to be humbled by showing him a practical illustration of the adage "There is a Moses for every Pharoah!"

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and the *Paisa Akhbár*.

15. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th February 1902, publishes a notice over the signature of a Háfiz Muhammad Yúsaf of Amritsar, who

The Anjuman-i-Hámi-i-nan-Musalmán.

announces that he has established a society called the Anjuman-i-Hámi-i-nau-Musalmán with the object of supplying the wants of new converts to Islám. He then calls upon his co-religionists to lend the Anjuman their hearty support, all donations of money, grain, &c., being sent to him. The Háfiz promises to issue annual reports on the working and financial condition of the institution.

Complaint against the Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

16. The *Ahlúmália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th February 1902, remarks that, according to the *Public Gazette*, the Manager of the Golden Temple has, in his joy at winning the case against one Bhái Ganga Singh, an *Ardásia*, given his pleader a suit of clothes out of the Temple Funds. The writer adds that it has several times been pointed out that Colonel Jwála Singh considers these funds as his own property and that he can enrich whomsoever he likes. It is, however, to be regretted that the District authorities have so far taken no notice of the Colonel's conduct. Nor does the latter seem willing to mend his ways.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

A suggestion to amend the Whipping Act.

17. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, says that some time back a certain Extra Assistant Commissioner at Amritsar passed a sentence of seventy stripes against an accused person, although the Criminal Procedure Code forbids the giving of more than thirty stripes at a time. The Superintendent of the local jail pointed out the illegality to the District Magistrate, adding that owing to the youth of the accused the execution of the sentence was likely to prove fatal. Upon this the latter officer sent up the file of the case to the Chief Court, which reduced the sentence to thirty stripes. After remarking that while the accused and the Extra Assistant Commissioner in question are natives, both the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of the Amritsar Jail are Europeans, the Editor observes that had such a case occurred in Bengal or Madras the native newspapers would have published long-winded articles about it. And had the convicting Magistrate been a European a veritable outcry would have been raised over the occurrence. As it is, however, no newspaper, including those issued from Amritsar, has thought it worth while to take the least notice of the case. The Editor then enquires what would have been the result if the District Magistrate and the Superintendent of Jail had not moved in the matter and the original sentence had been carried out. He, therefore, suggests that Government should be requested to amend the law requiring the immediate execution of sentences of whipping and to make such sentences appealable.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Judicial.

A complaint against certain Magistrates and Barristers at Amritsar.

18. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), dated 16th February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that an impression has gone abroad in Amritsar that the surest way to win cases pending in the court of ———,

Munsif, is to engage the services of a certain local Barrister. It is also talked about that the same result can be obtained in respect of cases tried by Rái———by retaining the services of certain other Barristers in the city. Indeed, the clerks of the said legal practitioners, nay petition-writers in general, have been heard to openly say so. It is also rumoured that the Barristers in question bargain for very heavy back fees on the condition of winning the case, which they almost always do. The writer then calls upon the District Magistrate and the District Judge of Amritsar to look into the matter, and adds that a perusal of the files of cases decided by the aforesaid courts will establish the truth of his assertion. Or they could consult some well-informed member of the local Bar on the point. It may be mentioned here that the courts referred to above are also to blame, and that they cause ignorant people to be caught by the said Barristers and secure for the last named persons Rs. 100 or Rs. 200 where a fee of Rs. 10 or Rs. 20 would suffice.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

19. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th February 1902, remarks that the approaching Municipal elections at Amritsar have thrown the local Musalmáns in a state of excitement. Several candidates are endeavouring to secure their election by hook or by crook, and are busy flattering everybody and anybody in order to ensure the attainment of that end. It may be mentioned here that these worthies are manufacturing voters at will, and that every tramp in the city has been metamorphosed into a house-owner. Men, adds that Editor, who have never had a rag on their backs, have had their names entered in the Voters' Register. Indeed, if things go on at this rate the name of not a single Musalmán in Amritsar or its suburbs will be left out of this register. After remarking that no regard is paid even to the age qualification, the Editor suggests that three or four Judicial Officers of independent views should be told off to took into the matter and put an end to the scandal.

The coming Municipal elections at Amritsar.

20. The same paper, of the 21st February 1902, complains that in not a few cases the same names have been entered in the Voters' Register two or three times. The Editor adds that a consideration of the qualifications, which voters are required to possess, will show that it is the desire of Government that the right to elect Municipal Commissioners should be enjoyed by such persons alone as can examine a question from every standpoint and are above flattery and temptation. He is, therefore, of opinion that the authorities should never lose sight of this and allow Local-Self Government to be converted into child's play.

The same.

21. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 26th February 1902, writing on the same subject, alleges that certain scheming persons have adopted the most shameful tactics in order to secure votes. They are going from house to house begging for votes, but be it said to the credit of the public that they are treated in a most contemptuous manner. The Editor then promises to revert to the subject in some future issue of his paper.

The same.

22. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, writing on the same subject, says that on former occasions the leading Muhammadan residents of Amritsar used to select competent persons to represent their community on the Municipal Committee, and that these candidates used to be elected unopposed. This time, however, there seems to be a rift in the lute and the elections are likely to be hotly contested. The Editor then refers to the practice of Hindús and Muhammadans voting for their respective co-religionists alone, and promises to express his views regarding it at some future time.

The same.

23. The *Ahlúwdlia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th February 1902, advises the Civil Surgeon of Amritsar to appoint to the post of Inspector of Foods only a person well versed in Allopathic and *Yunání* systems of medicine. The Editor adds that persons with no common sense and without a university certificate should not be considered eligible for the appointment.

A suggestion to appoint a qualified Doctor as Inspector of Foods at Amritsar.

(d)—Education.

24. Lála Munshi Rám, writing to the *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), dated 21st February 1902, remarks that it is an admitted fact that so long as the women of India do not become enlightened the country can make little or no progress worth the name. But while the condition of their sisters in other parts of the world has undergone a surprising change for the better during the last 50 years, that of the women of India has, to all practical purposes, remained stationary. It may be added that although the ruling class sympathises with the people in this respect, still it is powerless to render them any help in the attainment of the end in view. The task is not, however, a hopeless one, and Anglo-Indians can do much to encourage natives. The writer adds that recently Lady Young attended the meeting held at Jullundur to distribute prizes to the students of local Zenána Schools. It may be mentioned here that for certain unexplained reasons the Kanya Mahávidyálaya was not invited to take part in the meeting. After remarking that the girls reading in the said Zenána Schools are taught nothing beyond singing a few Christian songs, he goes on to say that if natives are anxious about their regeneration they should leave off depending on others for the improvement of the condition of their women. In conclusion, he remarks that the Kanya Mahávidyálaya should be converted into a central institution for female education.

The condition of women in India.

25. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st February 1902, writing about the Khálsa College, alleges that every thing connected with that institution seems to be mismanaged. As an instance in point, the Editor understands that the students living in the boarding house attached to the College are dissatisfied with the existing kitchen arrangements, and suggests that the most effectual way to remedy the evil is to place the arrangement in the hands of the boarders themselves, as is the practice in every other boarding house. He also alleges that he has received a complaint regarding the commission of a certain irregularity in connection with the recitation of the Rahoras (? in the boarding house) and invites the attention of the Managers of the College to the matter.

The Khálsa College.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The Government Resolution on the assessment of the land revenue.

26. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st February 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 22 of the Selections No. 6), praises Mr. Wilson, Settlement Commissioner in the Punjab, for suggesting that the rate, at which the land revenue is collected in this Province, should be reduced and that the well-to-do classes in Bengal, or throughout India, should be required to make up the resulting deficiency. The Editor then takes exception to the Viceroy basing his conclusions on official statistics, and says that such figures are almost always untrustworthy.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A suggestion to provide wire fencing along the Sialkot-Tawi and other Branch Railways.

27. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), of the 12th February 1902, remarks that owing to the Siálkot-Tawi and other Branch Railways not being provided with wire fencing, untoward accidents are of daily occurrence. The matter has more than once been commented upon in newspapers, but so far no notice has been taken of it. The Editor then calls upon the Railway authorities to take immediate steps to remove the evil complained of.

Grievances of the Clerks of the District Traffic Superintendent's Office, Lahore.

28. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 21st February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that it has several times been pointed out that the Clerks of the Lahore District Traffic Superintendent's Office are treated in an oppressive manner. It is, however, to be regretted that efforts are made to injure those Clerks whose grievances are ventilated in newspapers. As an instance in point, it may be stated that Mr. Littlewood has recommended some of these clerks for transfer. The correspondent then complains that Mehtáb Rái, a Clerk in the Train Branch of the aforesaid office, who has passed the examination for the post of Guard, is not allowed to learn the work of that post.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—7-3-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 10.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 8th March 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjás Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th February and 3rd March 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged		7,882	2	4
1. Munshi Muhammad Zikrulla, Sub-Registrar, Turábganj, District Gonda		1	0	0
2. Munshi Muhammad Husain, *alias* Shekh Atu, an employé of the Ráni of Jehangírabad		24	12	0
3. Received through Munshi Núr Muhammad, Behár		14	0	0
4. Maulvi Abdul Majíd, Dhamtan Post Office		20	0	0
5. Mián Muhammad Suliemán, Muktsar ...		21	0	0
6. Munshi Mahmúd Ali, Professor, Randhír College, Kapurthala		3	0	0
7. Syad Tajammul Husain, Shekhopura, Banauli Post Office		5	0	0
8. Munshi Ali Muhammad, son of Háji Búta, Lahore		1	0	0
9. Munshi Mahbúb-ul-Rahmán, *alias* Mahbúb Shah		0	4	0
10. Haji Fazal Dín		1	0	0
	Total ...	7,973	2	4

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th February 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 21st February 1902	...	1,056	3	0
Received through Maulvi Ibráhím Husain	...	58	0	0
Total	...	1,114	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	2,186	6	0

III.—NATIVE STATES.

The plague riot at Patiála.

3. A correspondent of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 25th February 1902, writing about the recent plague riot at Patiála, says that on the 18th idem an old Muhammadan woman of Duggar caste, residing in the Samwari (?) Gate quarter, was taken ill with fever. Karím-ud-dín, Hospital Assistant, who went to see her, declared that she was suffering from plague, and ordered her removal to the Segregation Camp. To this, however, her relations objected, upon which the Hospital Assistant reported the matter to Major Hendley, I. M. S., Medical Adviser to the Mahárája. The following day the Major and Dr. Nathu Mal, the Civil Surgeon, went to the old woman's house, but she had died before their arrival. The correspondent adds that at first they were of opinion that the deceased's body should be cremated, but that afterwards they were for burning the house. The Duggars, however, would not listen to this, and on the Doctors behaving in a rather highhanded manner they attacked and abused the latter. Major Hendley and Dr. Nathu Mal then left the place and reported the occurrence to the Council of Regency. After some consultation that body considered it advisable to detail a strong Police Guard for the Doctors' assistance. Thus reinforced they went back to the old woman's house and insisted on the same being burnt down. On this occasion the Guard treated the Duggars in a highhanded manner, upon which the latter, whose numbers had increased to hundreds, attacked the party and thus commenced the riot. After giving an account of the disturbance, the writer states that on the morning of the 20th February the Council of Regency sent for the Bázár Chaudhrís and asked them to talk the matter over with Mr. Warburton. They agreed to this, but strangely enough they are being kept in custody and have been given to understand that they will not be released till they produce the rioters who beat Dr. Hendley and burnt the Dispensary and the Segregation Camp. It may be added that the city is patrolled by the Military and that indiscriminate arrests are the order of the day.

The same.

4. The same paper of the 1st March 1902 publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that the Military are treating the people in a very rough manner and are securing as much loot as they can. It is rumoured that they entered certain houses and carried away even the ornaments worn by the female

inmates. It may be added that several Sowárs have been arrested on a charge of robbery and are awaiting trial. After remarking that one of these sons of Mars wounded a woman's hand in his attempt to remove her bangles with the aid of a bayonet, the correspondent says that by the evening of the 21st February thousands of innocent persons had been arrested, but that many of these have had to be released. Had the Doctors, he observes, shown a little more tact, the riot would have been averted. They ought to have used persuasion and not force to induce the Duggars to burn the house referred to above. It may be mentioned that the local telegraph signaller declined to despatch the people's telegrams about the riot to the Political Agent and the Local Government, and that it was only when the populace assumed a threatening aspect that he transmitted the messages. The writer concludes by expressing the hope that the Council of Regency and Mr. Warburton will treat the people in a sympathetic manner.

The same.

5. The *Patidla Akhbár* (Patiála), of the 28th February 1902, remarks that there is no truth in the foregoing assertion regarding the transmission of telegrams. The statement regarding Dr. Hendley proposing the cremation of the dead woman or burning down her house is also without foundation. Equally false is the report published by the *Civil and Military Gazette* that the Duggars raised the disturbance only after the Council of Regency had refused to listen to them. The fact, adds the Editor, is that Major Hendley merely wished to disinfect the house in question. The people, however, misconstrued his motives, and having been encouraged by the reports of plague riots at Siálkot and other places, they took the law into their own hands.

The same.

6. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1902, writing on the same subject, expresses the hope that Mr. Warburton will conduct the enquiries with tact and that innocent persons will not be harassed.

Suket affairs.

7. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that some time back one Lála Panna Lál had an interview with the Commissioner of Jullundur, when the latter admitted that the Rája of Suket was an able and energetic ruler and that the State subjects were happy and contented. He, however, added that only those were good in his eyes who did his biddings. Mr. Anderson went on to say that the ruler of Mandi was ever ready to do what he was told, and that if he were asked to release even a murderer he would do so at once. As for Titlu Rám, the Commissioner did not deny that the man was a mischief-maker and given to the use of Billingsgate, and that he had been rightly punished. Nevertheless, he contended that having been a prisoner for about a year, the unexpired portion of the sentence passed against Titlu Rám should be remitted. Upon this, he was assured that the Rája was always ready to carry out his behests, and that had His Highness known that he (the Commissioner) was so much interested in the prisoner, the man would have been released without demur. Mr. Anderson was also given to understand that on his next visit to Suket the Rája would reconsider the matter

and set free Titlu Rám *nolens volens*. The correspondent then calls upon Lord Curzon to make thorough enquiries into the Rája's case and do justice to His Highness.

The *Punjab Samáchár* and Mián Jaimanji of Suket.

8. A correspondent writing to the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th February 1902, says that in August 1900 the *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore) published a communication in praise of Mián Jaimanji, the younger brother of the Rája of Suket (*vide* paragraph 18 of the Selections No. 35 of 1900). Now, however, the Editor of the said paper is so completely in the hands of the Rája that in its issue of the 8th February last he falls foul of the Mián and uses insulting language towards that unfortunate gentleman. The writer then calls upon the journalist in question to apologize for the attack, and says that in case this is not done within a week, he will show up the latter in his true colours.

The same.

9. Commenting on the above, the Editor takes the *Punjab Samáchár* to task for preferring false charges against the Mián.

A complaint against the Rája of Madhan, Simla District.

10. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, says that certain residents of the Madhan State, Simla District, have submitted a representation to the Punjab Government in which they allege that their Rája practises gross oppression on his subjects, that he forces people to work for him without receiving wages, and that although he recovers several taxes, the State is grossly mismanaged. The representation further alleges that Bábu Rám Rattan, Reader to the Superintendent of the Simla Hill States, accepts bribes from the said State and does not allow the complaints against the Rája to reach the ears of the authorities. It is difficult to say what truth there is in these allegations, still it is to be hoped that the Local Government will cause thorough enquiries to be made into the matter.

Kashmir affairs.

11. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1902, expatiates on the advantages of education, and says that the residents of Kashmir are very backward in the matter of education. He then complains that the number of Muhammadan teachers in State schools is out of all proportion to the Musalmán population of the Happy Valley, and suggests that the attention of the State authorities, especially of the Judicial Member of the State Council, who takes a keen interest in educational questions, should be invited to the matter. After remarking that steps should be taken to spread education among the Mahárája's Musalmán subjects, the correspondent says that the number of Primary village schools in the State being only about 13, there was no necessity to appoint an Assistant Inspector to supervise the working of the same. Indeed, the salary paid to this officer could be more profitably spent in educating Muhammadans, who, by the way, contribute the major part of the State revenues. In conclusion, the writer alleges that while grants-in-aid are paid to a certain Hindu as well as a Mission School, nothing whatever is paid to the Muhammadan schools in the State.

The same.

12. Commenting on the above, the Editor invites Government's attention to the matter.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Famine-stricken Hindu children and Christian Missionaries.

13. The *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 7th March 1902, publishes the following:—

"Our ruin is the prosperity of the Christians. Our woes are their blessings. When our crops fail, theirs are the richest. The famine of Rájpútána makes a heyday for them. They are always on the watch for such opportunities and the visitation of heavenly wrath upon the poor people of India affords them golden opportunities to add hundreds and thousands of the starving Indians to their fold.

"They are already in the field. The agents of almost all the missions have penetrated to the inner-most parts of the country, and by fair means or foul, they are endeavouring to achieve their end. Some will put on *dhotis* and wear *Yagyopavitas* to seduce the more strong-minded Hindús. Others will pose as philanthropists and disinterested saviours of mankind. But alas! when the Hindús are in their grip, they learn in vain, that their disinterested saviours were anything but this.

"Fatalists as we are, when the crops seemed to be failing we looked towards heavens while the Christian Missionaries already established their camps there.

"The result is that we are yet gazing while they are carrying away our children in hundreds and thousands to make them the destroyers of our nation and haters of our religion. We cannot blame the Christians for this work of theirs. They think it to be their pious duty to give our children not only bread and butter to feed their stomachs, but also spiritual food for their souls. They are really disinterested inasmuch as they—of course with great allowance—have no personal interests.

"But our contention is that we do not require their help, that their help is ruinous to us; it thins our numbers and spreads untruth among those who possess truth by inheritance.

"Therefore we have a double work before us. We have to save the lives of our countrymen and also to save their religion from the encroachments of foreigners. The work is a hard one, but this hardness lends it a double sanctity and holds forth double merit to those who will do it. • • •

"Sardár Kishen Singh and Lála Ghasíta Rám, who are working at Neemuch, write in most pathetic terms about the disaster that is working havoc there. They are too weak, they say, to carry on single-handed this gigantic work.

"Hundreds of other active souls are required to stand by them and carry on this philanthropic work.

"The Punjábís have already made a name for themselves by extending their helping hand to their brethren in Rájpútána. The Bengalies, the Mahrattas and others have begun to look upon the Punjábís as most active, most charitable and most patriotic of the Indians, and in order that the Punjab may keep up that distinction, the Punjábís must show the same spirit of self-sacrifice and self-denial as enabled them in the last famine to rescue about one thousand and five hundred of their brethren from the jaws of death and apostacy."

Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple Amritsar.

14. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th February 1902, regrets that so far no notice has been taken of the numerous charges preferred by it against Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple. The Editor then calls upon the Deputy Commissioner to enquire into the Colonel's conduct or direct that worthy to establish his innocence by prosecuting his accusers. He adds that if nothing comes of this by the end of a fortnight, he will take more effective steps to induce Government to make the Manager and Munshi Bhola Singh disgorge the Temple money embezzled by them.

A complaint against a certain *Mahant*.

15. The same paper alleges that the agent of a certain *Mahant* has presented a mare worth Rs. 300 or Rs. 400 to a certain employé of the Amritsar Municipality. It is generally rumoured that this has been done in order to serve a special purpose. And as the Agent (? *Mahant*) is a debauchee of the worst type, it is suspected that the present has been made with the object of averting the resumption of the *jágír* now enjoyed by him. It is, however, difficult to see of what use a Municipal servant can prove in the matter. At all events, the Editor hopes to be able to solve the enigma in the next issue of his paper.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—*Judicial.*

A prosecution for obscene writing.

16. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st March 1902, reports that Munshi Karím Bux, Editor of the local *Anwár-ul-Islám*, who had been prosecuted by Government for obscene writing, has been made to enter into a personal recognizance for Rs. 100 for one year, under Section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

A complaint against the Munsif of Ráwalpindi.

17. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Râwalpindi), of the 1st March 1902, learns from a reliable source that on the 26th ultimo an altercation took place between Lála Moti Rám, Munsif, Ráwalpindi, and Bhái Beant Singh, a local pleader, in the course of the trial of a certain case. As the former was considered to have been the aggressor, the Pindi Bar held a meeting and served a notice on him asking him to apologise for his conduct, which he did.

18. A correspondent writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), dated 24th February 1902, complains that under the new rules residents of the North-West Frontier Province cannot engage the services of legal practitioners to conduct their cases. This, he adds, is very hard on non-Pathán and may lead them to stop business in that part of the country. The writer is, therefore, of opinion that Colonel Deane should make an exemption in their favour in this respect and allow them to continue retaining lawyers to conduct their cases.

Legal practitioners and the new Frontier Province.

(b)—Police.

19. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 28th February 1902, remarks that according to Calcutta newspapers dakaiti is on the increase in the very metropolis of India. It is said that dakaits break into houses in the darkness of night, subject the inmates to much ill-usage, and carry away whatever they can get hold of. This state of affairs has caused a panic among the residents of the above city, especially as they have no arms and cannot, therefore, fight armed dakaits. To make matters worse, applications for licenses to keep arms are being summarily rejected. The Editor then publishes a summary of a letter recently published in the *Indian Mirror* on the subject over the signature of Bábu Dína Náth Kumár.

Dakaiti in Calcutta.

20. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1902, says that recently a local postman was prosecuted on a charge of using a counterfeit five-rupee currency note (*vide* paragraph 19 of the Selections No. 8). A certain young *samindár* was also arrested on the same charge, but was discharged on stating that he had received the note from another person through ignorance. At all events, these incidents show that counterfeit notes of the above value are in circulation in Lahore and other cities of the Punjab. To make matters worse, they are very clever imitations, and it is, therefore, necessary that they should be accepted after being very carefully examined.

Counterfeit five-rupee Notes.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

21. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th February 1902, remarks that the sole object of illiterate and ignorant persons endeavouring to secure seats on Municipal Committees is merely the desire to gain in importance in the eyes of both the people and the authorities. As for promoting the public good, adds the Editor, the worthies in question might as well be in their graves. He then goes on to say that the Muhammadan residents of Amritsar are behaving themselves in an objectionable manner in connection with the coming Municipal elections. After reproducing the *Vakil's* remarks on the subject (*vide* paragraph 19 of the Selections No. 9), he alleges that several Musalmáns, who pass their entire time in the company of prostitutes, are also trying to get themselves elected.

The coming Municipal elections at Amritsar.

22. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th February 1902, publishes a communication from Báwa Naráyan Singh, a local pleader, who says that of the present members of the Amritsar Municipal Committee not one has ever performed his duties. Nay, some of them do not even attend the meetings

The same.

of the Committee, while those who do, behave like veritable mummies. The writer is, therefore, of opinion that none of these worthies should be allowed to work on the Mun icipality any longer. He adds that the local public intends memorializing Gover nment on the subject, especially as certain membe rs, who can be proved to have em bezzled octroi money, are endeavouring to get themselves re-elected.

The same.

23. The same paper complains that properly speaking the preceding two or three Municipal elections at Amritsar were no elections at all. To secure a seat on the local Municipality it is only necessary to spen d m oney and secure the co-operation of some roughs. It may be mentioned that persons who do not pay a monthly house-rent even of two annas are made to r epresent this amount to be Rs. 40, Rs. 30 or Rs. 25 and get themselves regist ered as voters. Again, those who have in their power *samindárs* residing outside Amritsar send for the latter and get their names entered in the voters' register on the same representation. In the same way students living in temples and supplying their wants by begging are metamorphosed into voters. Pressure is also brought to bear on shopkeepers to vote in favour of certain candidates, and the poor men dare not disobey for fear of being involved in trouble. Moreover, the same person assumes different names and obtains voters' certificates for several wards. The Editor then goes on to say that similar tactics are being employed in connection with the coming elections and tha t the value of a vote has been fixed at Rs. 2. Roughs have also been employed to use physical force, if necessary, in the interests of their employers, and on the election days as well as when the names of voters are registered these mercenaries will keep out every one who may not be favourably disposed towards their masters. It may be added that in this work they are assisted by the Police, who are also bribed on the occasion. It is, therefore, desirable that Government should look into the matter and take steps to prevent all but *bond-fide* voters from voting at elections.

The imposition of a house-tax in Delhi.

24. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of 23rd February 1902, blames the Municipal Commissioners of Delhi for the restlessness recently caused in the city in connection with the assessment of house-tax. These worthies, it says, proved quite unequal to the task; and it was from a letter from a local European friend that Major Douglas came to know of the feelings of unrest prevalent among the people. The Editor adds that satisfactory arrangements have been made to ensure proper assessment of the tax, and a notice has been circulated to re-assure the people. Again, persons owning large houses, but in impoverished circumstances, have been exempted from the payment of the tax. The same concession has been made in favour of widows, the rent of whose houses does not exceed five rupees, as well as in that of certain poor persons who have erected huts on lands (in the Sadr Bazár an d Tailiwára) belonging to others.

The same.

25. The same paper of the 1st March 1902 says that the restlessness occasioned by the imposition of house-tax has almost subsided, although certain educated persons are still trying to induce the people to submit a memorial to the Gov-

ernment praying for the abolition of the tax. The Editor adds that some of the local pleaders are reported to have founded a "Rate-payers' Association" with the object of saleguarding the interests of the people and keeping an eye on the doings of the Municipal Committee. He is, however, of opinion that this object can be better gained by electing only those persons as Municipal Commissioners who would take an oath to serve their constituents faithfully. He then goes on to say that the Delhi Municipal Committee stands in need of 12 lakhs of rupees in order to introduce gas light in the city, to metal and repair the roads, and to construct drains. But although it has disposed of a part of its property in order to raise the necessary funds, there is still a large deficit. The Editor, therefore, advises the people to submit to the imposition of the proposed tax, especially as it is a temporary one, and the income from it is to be spent for their own good.

(d)—Education

The University Commission.

26. The *Sidlkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st March 1902, after remarking that the University Commission will visit Lahore in April next, says that Mr. Bell, witness *(sic)* from the Punjab, has been preparing his evidence for some time past. It is, however, the Editor's wish that some other gentleman knowing all about the local University should give evidence before the Commission. He then goes on to say that the majority of the Fellows of the Punjab University are merely ornamental figureheads, and suggests that in future only graduates who are competent to discuss educational questions should be appointed Fellows. He is of opinion that a uniform standard of examinations should be maintained by all Indian Universities and that the various Syndicates should have the same powers. He takes exception to the Universities paying too much attention to liberal education and neglecting moral and physical training; and says that this state of affairs is greatly retarding the progress of Indian Society, that technical education, of which India stands in great need and on which depends the prosperity of the country, should also be included in the curricula of Indian Universities, and that students should be taught in their own mother tongue, for otherwise they pay geater attention to the language of the book read than to its subject, which defeats the real object of education and makes students imbibe the objectionable habit of cramming. The Editor then discusses the question of whether Urdu should be used as the medium of education in the Punjab and admits that that language is gradually becoming the mother tongue of the Punjábís. The number of educational books in it being, however, limited, he would not, for the present at least, adopt it as the medium of instruction. He would suggest that either Urdu or some other vernacular should be so improved as to serve the above purpose, or that more time should be devoted to the study of English in schools, so that ultimately it may become "our" mother tongue. After remarking that Universities should not only be examining but also teaching bodies, the Editor points out that college and school text-books used in the Punjab are not infrequently prescribed in a very off-hand manner without due regard being paid to the capacity of those who have to study the same. He, therefore, suggests that in future the selection of these books should also be placed in the hands of the local University.

27. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, remarks that the present poverty of India is due to free trade and the absence of technical education worthy the name in the country. The only way to remedy the evil, suggests the Editor, is to spread the said education throughout the length and breadth of the land, and enable lakhs and crores of Native young men to engage in useful and remunerative occupations. It may be mentioned that the adoption of the above suggestion would also be certain to put an end to the export of raw materials without any economic return, for under the altered circumstances these materials would be consumed in the country itself. The Editor then suggests that the Viceroy should start a fund for the encouragement of technical education among natives.

Technical education.

28. The same paper of the 1st March 1902 says that the proprietors of 92 (?) printing presses at Lahore have submitted a memorial to the Director of Public Instruction in the Punjab in connection with the contract for printing text-books used in this Province. After referring to certain allegations made in the memorial (*vide* paragraph 26 of the Selections No. 48 of 1901), the Editor says that the memorialists also accuse the Mufíd-i-'Am Press of turning out badly printed books, &c., and suggest that this time the contract should not be given to this Press. He adds that the memorial also finds fault with the management and mode of work of the Text-Book Committee, and requests Mr. Bell to enquire into the matter and abolish the Committee. That officer has further been requested to entrust the printing of specified books to different Presses, who might purchase the copy-right of the said publications. The Editor has no doubt that this would have the effect of lowering the prices of text-books and thereby remove one of the obstacles in the way of education. In conclusion, he expresses the hope that the Director of Public Instruction will make thorough enquiries into the memorial.

The contract for the publication and sale of text-books used in the Punjab.

29. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th February 1902, says that the Sikh community is not to blame for the Khálsa College having proved a failure. He adds that at first the Sikhs were quite willing to raise large funds for the College, but that the doings of its managers soon alienated the community's sympathy from it. It is, therefore, wrong to regard the institution as a National College, nay, so far, no effort has been made to raise it to that position. After remarking that at present it is a plaything in the hands of certain persons, the correspondent observes that Sir Mackworth Young's recent speech at the College contains some very valuable advice, which, however, cannot be acted upon until the institution regains the confidence and love of the Gurus' followers.

The Khálsa College.

(c)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

30. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 8th February (received on the 5th March) 1902, after publishing the substance of the Government Resolution on the assessment of the land revenue, remarks that even Lord Curzon has been constrained

The Government Resolution on the assessment of land revenue.

to admit that in some cases the demand presses unduly on the *zamíndárs*. It may be added that it is not sufficient to assert that Government does not realize more than $\frac{1}{7}$th of the agricultural produce; but that, as suggested by Mr. Wacha at the last session of the National Congress, a Commission should be appointed to enquire into the agricultural condition of India. The Editor further remarks that it is wrong to say that the Resolution in question refutes the objections raised by Mr. Dutt and others in connection with Government's land revenue policy.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

31. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), dated 25th January (received on the 3rd March) 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that Badámi Bágh is the principal station for passengers from Lahore City to Peshawar side, and that at train times there is always a great crush there. It is, however, to be regretted that so far no waiting-room worth the name has been provided at the station and that passengers have to make themselves comfortable on the roadside as best they can. This, it will be conceded, is a source of great inconvenience to the travelling public, especially females, particularly when it is raining. The writer then calls upon the Railway authorities to look into the matter and remedy the evil complained of.

The want of a waiting-room at the Badámi Bágh Station.

32. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1902, remarks that a correspondent has drawn its attention to the desirability of constructing a branch Railway line to Chakwál, Jhelum District, from Mandra or Sohawa on the North-Western Railway or Khewra on the Sind-Ságar Railway. The Editor adds that the venture is certain to prove a profitable concern, as there is a good deal of commercial activity in the Chakwál iláka.

A suggestion to construct a branch Railway to Chakwál.

(g)—Postal Matters.

33. The Editor of the *Khair Khwah-i-Hind* (Delhi), in its issue of the 1st March 1902, alleges that a letter enclosing a cheque posted to him at Calcutta on the 2nd January last has not reached him up to the present. He adds that the local postmen manage to mislay not a few letters and newspapers received for him. This leads him to the conclusion that several other residents of Delhi must have also the same complaint to make. He, therefore, urges the Postmaster-General to look into the mattter.

A postal complaint.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

34. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th February 1902, says that London newspapers have suggested that the Imperial Assemblage at Delhi should be held not on the 1st January 1903 but on the 26th June next or on the 9th November, the King-Emperor's Birthday. Neither of these suggestions, however, has commended itself to Lord Curzon, and His Lordship seems bent on holding the Assemblage on the date fixed by him. The Editor then points out that this date clashes with that of the Id-ul-Fitr, and says that it

The coming Imperial Assemblage at Delhi.

would be very inconvenient for Musalmáns to attend the Darbár. The Editor, therefore, requests the Viceroy to hold the Assemblage on the 26th January 1903, *i.e.*, on the date on which His Majesty the King-Emperor ascended the Throne.

The same.

35. One Mirán Bakhsh of Siálkot, writing to the *Sirájul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), dated 24th February 1902, suggests that full ruling powers should be restored to the Mahárája of Kashmir on the occasion of the King-Emperor's Coronation, Diwán Amar Náth, Governor of Kashmir, being appointed His Highness' Prime Minister. Again, the ruler of Poonch should be given some higher title and allowed a salute of guns. The writer further suggests that on the Coronation day, which should be observed as a public holiday throughout the country, Native Chiefs as well as Deputy Commissioners in British India should hold Darbárs, receive *nazars* and confer *Khillats* on deserving persons. He is also of opinion that short-term prisoners should be released, in honor of the occasion, that sentences against others should be reduced and that all death sentences should be commuted into those of imprisonment. Moreover, the land revenue due from certain impoverished villages should be remitted and no fares should be levied for travelling by train or steamer on the auspicious day aforesaid. The writer then exhorts the people to wear their best clothes on the Coronation day and to distribute alms and offer prayers for the King-Emperor and his Consort.

The plague.

36. "A Láhori," writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1902, reports that the orders forbidding the holding of the Basant Fair at Lahore were not obeyed. The people did not of course gather together at the usual place, but all the same the fair *was* held. A large crowd of Hindús and Muhammadans went to Pandit Janárdan's gardens and enjoyed themselves there the whole day. It may be added that in past years the former used to go to Haqíqat Rái's cenotaph and the latter to the shrine of Mádholál-Hussain, and that as the two places are nearly a mile apart, the crush was never great at either. This time, however, both Hindús and Muhammadans flocked to the said gardens and swelled into such a large crowd as to defeat the object of the orders referred to above. The writer then suggests that the Deputy Commissioner should also stop the weekly wrestling matches, which are witnessed by thousands of persons.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—14-3 02—70.

[Confidential]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 11.]

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Received up to 15th March 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 11.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 15th March 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. A correspondent writing to the *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 7th March 1902, remarks that if the Muhammadan residents of Indian villages were given to understand that the proposed Hedjáz Railway was a religious undertaking and would facilitate pilgrimage to the sacred places of Islám, they would not hesitate to give money for the work. The females of Musalmáns, if enlightened on the subject, might also be relied upon to make substantial contributions. After exhorting his co-religionists to look into the matter, the writer suggests that the value of the hides of animals sacrificed on the occasion of the coming Id should also be subscribed towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund.

The same.

2. The same paper, of the 7th and 10th March 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
	Amount already acknowledged ...	7,973	2	4
1.	Dr. Nabi Bakhsh, of Shikárpur, Sindh ...	1	0	0
2.	Sheikh Sádiq Ali, of Kanauj ...	1	0	0
3.	Sayad Mazhar Ali, of Kanauj ...	2	0	0
4.	Mother of one Mustafa Ahmad, a student of the Muhammadan College (*sic*) ...	5	0	0
5.	Munshi Núr Ahmad, Veterinary Assistant, Kunjpura	5	14	0
6.	Munshi Aziz-ud-dín of the Chitrál Political Agency	1	0	0
7.	Bábu Abdur Rahmán, Inspector of Railway Works, Sangla	5	0	0
	Total ...	7,994	0	4

The same.

3. The *Watán* (Lahore), of the 7th March 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 28th February 1902		1,114	3	0
1. Received through Maulvi Muhammad Ali, of Dera Raza Muhammad Khan ...		1	0	0
2. Maulvi Ahmad Dín, B.A., Political Tahsildár, Tochi		5	0	0
3. Hakim Ghulám Mohay-ud-dín, Bombay		1	8	0
4. Received through Hakim Muhammad Ali and Sheikh Abdur Razzáq, Bhadaur ...		7	0	0
5. Received through Hafiz Qádir Bakhsh, Merchant, Kasauli		21	0	0
Total	...	1,149	11	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	2,221	14	0

The same.

4. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 1st February 1902	...	274	14	0
1. Mother of Aslám, Bághbánpur	...	2	0	0
2. Mrs. Ne'matull'ah... ...	...	60	0	0
Total	...	336	14	0

(b)—Home.

Recruiting in the Punjab.

5. The following occurs in an article headed "Recruiting in the Punjab," published by the *Tribune* (Lahore) in its issue of the 27th February 1902 :—

"In the Punjab, the most important recruiting ground in the Empire, Játs (Sikhs and others), Mazbi Sikhs, Rájpúts (Dográs and others) and Mohial Brahmans *amongst Hindús*—and Tiwánás, Awáns, Játs, Rájpúts, 'Multánís' (*i.e.*, Deráwáls of mixed Biloch descent), Patháns and Ranghars *amongst Musalmáns*—are the tribes most prized by recruiting officers. Why should the army be deprived of the services of men belonging to other tribes, who by training and discipline would become as good soldiers as any of those just enumerated? In our opinion the army should be thrown open to *all* Punjábís without distinction of creed, class, or caste. It is nothing but unreasoning prejudice that is at the root of the practical exclusion of certain castes. We hope the reader will not run away with the idea that we put, for example,

a Banía and a Manjha Ját in the same category. Certainly not. Some castes must prove better soldiers than others, but preference is one thing and monopoly of favour another. In the Punjab a safe general rule to follow will be to refuse admission to no one, of whatever caste he may be, if he wishes to enlist, is physically fit, and there is room for him. The pay and prospects are not so alluring as to tempt any members of the unwarlike communities to enter the army in order to better their worldly condition. Only those who love a soldier's life for its own sake take up the profession of arms in India. * * * * We are sure that if a regiment of "*Kahárs* (who have shown their coolness and contempt of death on many a bloody battlefield) were created, they would acquit themselves as creditably as the gallant Mazbís have done. It is a very good proposal, that of accepting under-sized men of slighter build if they belong to castes that come under the category of warlike. Napoleon's soldiers who helped him to conquer Europe were mostly short, wiry men."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The new Amír and the Káfirs.

6. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 28th February 1902, says that the report that the new Amír has sent some soldiers, accompanied by the Mullah of Hadda, against Káfiristán, would show that His Highness has decided to use force to convert the remaining Káfirs to the Muhammadan religion. It may be mentioned here that both the British Government and the Hindu residents of India are fully aware that the persons whom the Afgháns call Káfirs are only followers of Hindúism. It is true that separation from their co-religionists in this country has made them forget some of the tenets of their faith, but all the same they are descendants of Hindús. The poor Hindús, however, have no independent Hindu ruler or any other friend to look up to, and all their hopes centre round the British Government, whose subjects they are. The Editor then enquires if it is not the duty of the present rulers of India to afford protection to the Hindús of Káfiristán. He is of opinion that the Hindús throughout the country should request Government to make Habíb-ullah Khán understand that His Highness's interference with the religion of the Káfirs will cost him its friendship. After remarking that before the late Amír encroached upon its freedom Káfiristán had always been an independent country, the Editor observes that the Arya Samáj should consider it a duty to produce preachers who would take their lives in their hands and go to Káfiristán with the object of bringing back its inhabitants into the fold of the Vedic religion. He is, however, afraid that the Aryás are too much given to criticising one another to spare time for such a work.

The Anglo-Indian Press and the new Amír.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th March 1902, says that some Anglo-Indian newspapers have hastened to infer from certain acts of the new Amír that he is inclined more to religion than to politics, and that he is likely to become a puppet in the hands of religious enthusiasts and neglect the administration of his country. Were, however, these papers to examine the career of the late ruler of Kabul in a careful manner, they would find that in the beginning Abdur Rahmán also thought it politic to propitiate the religious leaders of the

country, for they enjoy the same influence in Afghánistán as was wielded by their *confrères* in Europe during the middle ages. Indeed, no Amír can consider his position secure so long as he does not succeed in winning their good-will.

III.—Native States.

The plague riot at Patiála.

8. A correspondent of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 3 of the Selections No. 10), says that there is no truth in the rumour that the Telegraph Signaller at Patiála at first refused to transmit the people's telegram about the plague to the Political Agent and the Lieutenant-Governor. The writer then goes on to say that Mr. Warburton has released most of the persons arrested between the 25th ultimo and the 3rd instant. None of the Duggars or the Bazár *Chaudhrís*, however, have been set free up to the present. It may be added that one of the latter, Rám Dás by name, a leading *Sáhukár* in the town and a man of charitable disposition, fell ill while in custody and was sent back to his house, where he died, it is thought, of plague. Two more cases of plague have occurred among the men under custody, and both have proved fatal. The correspondent further alleges that certain *badmáshes* of Patiála, who were some time back taken on in the Secret Police by Mr. Warburton to help that officer in working out theft cases, &c., are said to have caused several innocent persons to be arrested in connection with the riot. It has also transpired that they accepted bribes from certain guilty persons and secured the latter's release. As soon as Mr. Warburton heard of this he had the *badmáshes* in question arrested and placed under custody. After expressing the hope that the Military *Sowárs* who stripped certain women of their ornaments will be severely punished, the writer calls upon the Council of Regency to make searching enquiries into the matter and do justice to the innocent persons detained in police custody. He further remarks that although neither the Council of Regency nor Mr. Warburton has been guilty of any highhandedness in connection with the disturbance, still not a few respectable residents of Patiála have been grossly maltreated by subordinate officials from motives of personal gain. He then praises the President and the Members of the Council for the way in which they are performing their duties. In conclusion, he says that the people are leaving Patiála in large numbers and that the city is fast assuming a deserted look.

Patiála affairs.

9. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 5th March 1902, remarks that while Government has removed the rigour of the plague rules and forbidden the employment of the Police in the suppression of the epidemic, Native States have begun to follow quite an opposite policy. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that all outsiders have been prohibited from entering the cities of Nábha, Máler Kotla, &c. These arbitrary orders, adds the writer, are causing considerable inconvenience to the sick in the neighbouring villages, and these unfortunate persons do not know whence to procure the necessary medicines, &c. He then goes on to say that had the authorities at Patiála followed the plague rules in force in the adjoining district of

Ambala, the recent plague riot in that city would never have occurred. He further remarks that the rioters should be severely punished, and that their property should be confiscated without hesitation. He urges that the State also should not spare its executive officials in Patiála, should it turn out that the disturbance was due to any act of negligence or imprudence on their part. He wishes to mention in this connection that in January last some of these officials are said to have been warned that if they resorted to highhandedness in the suppression of the plague a riot would be the consequence. After remarking that if this is so the officials concerned deserve to be severely punished, the correspondent complains that village Lambardárs throughout the State have been required to enter into personal recognisances in order to make them give information regarding the illicit manufacture of spirituous liquors in their respective *iláká*s, and that in case they fail to do so the recognisances will be forfeited. He is of opinion that this is tantamount to holding the Lambardárs responsible for the sins of others and punishing them in place of the guilty. He then goes on to say that the Judges of the Patiála Chief Court are unfit to perform their duties, and suggests the appointment of two experienced Government officials to the posts of Chief Justice and Registrar, which, he says, is the only way to reform the State Law Courts and ensure an impartial administration of justice. The writer further remarks that the Council of Regency is losing the confidence of the State subjects and seems to have forgotten the promises contained in the address presented by it to Sir Mackworth Young on the 23rd October last. He does not, however, wish to enter into details and would content himself by putting only the following two questions to the Council :—

(1) Who are the present incumbents of the posts of Civil Judge and Náib Diwán-i-Riyásat, and where did they study law and gain experience of judicial work?

(2) Why was Háji Muhammad Mushtáq, now Registrar of the Chief Court, removed from the post of Civil Judge, and on what grounds was he considered inferior to the present holder of the latter appointment?

In case the Council declines to reply to the foregoing questions, the correspondent will give publicity to certain other objectionable doings of that body. He further alleges that the Bára Fund, out of which are purchased grass, fuel, charcoal, &c., for State requirements, is grossly mismanaged, and that far higher rates are charged to the State than those at which the said articles are sold in the market. Indeed, should the Manager of the Fund be a dishonest person, he can, within only two years, amass money sufficient to support his family for several generations. It may also be mentioned here that the post of Manager has always been held by some relation of the person having, for the time being, the greatest influence with the Mahárája. Similar dishonesty, it may be added, is practised in connection with the purchase of cloth, furniture, &c., for the State. The writer, therefore, calls upon Mr. Biddulph to look into the matter, and suggests that if tenders were invited for the supply of the articles in question, the expenditure under this head would be reduced by about 75 per cent. He then objects to the appointment of Bakhshi

Pretam Singh as Commander-in-Chief, and remarks that a man who has received no military training and possesses no experience should not have been so honoured. Indeed, it is a mistake to confer the post on a native at all, as this is calculated to promote disunion among the local Imperial Service Troops and mar their efficiency. After suggesting that some European officer of Government should be imported for the purpose, the correspondent alleges that Police enquiries into the Patiála plague riot are not likely to lead to any good, and says that in case executive officials are found to have been to blame for the disturbance, all the three Members of the Council of Regency should be replaced by Government officers. Indeed, he is of opinion that this is the only way to ensure the welfare of the State.

Suket affairs.

10. A correspondent, writing to the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st and 8th March 1902, says that the Rája of Suket is in the habit of oppressing all classes of his subjects. All the Commissioners who have had to deal with His Highness have advised him to mend his ways, but to no purpose. Indeed, had he been a conscientious ruler he would not have denied justice to the oppressed, and the office of the Commissioner, Jullundur Division, would not have been flooded with complaints against him. It may be added that since his accession to the *gaddi* of Suket several useful institutions have become things of the past. For instance, the State school and hospital, which were doing much useful work, have long been abolished, while the gardens, &c., where the people used to amuse themselves, have also disappeared. The writer further alleges that the Rája has shut the doors of the public service in the face of his subjects, and that all the State offices are almost exclusively manned by outsiders. It may, however, be mentioned here that every honest outsider becomes disgusted with His Highness's ways in a few days and hastens to shake the dust of Suket off his feet. After stating how the Chief in question used to ill-treat his father, grandfather, uncles, brothers and other relations, the correspondent says that there is no truth in the charges preferred against Mr. Anderson, and that that officer has never interfered with Dusht Nekan-Dan Sain. He then publishes the facts of the case against Titlu Rám, and alleges that before sending the latter to jail the Rája had him thrashed by certain orderlies.

The Rája of Faridkot.

11. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, says that it is rumoured in Lahore that the Rája of Faridkot undertook a journey to this city with the object of bidding farewell to Sir Mackworth Young, but that a certain disease, the result of some excess, cut short the journey and obliged His Highness to return to his State.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Bogus Marriage Fund.

12. One Banwari Lál, writing to the *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 7th March 1902, says that the Directors of certain bogus Funds at Kunjpura, Karnál District, who have recently met their deserts (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 4) were composed of Chaukídárs, retired Postmen and

Jemadárs, &c. In the prospectuses issued, however, every one of these worthies was styled a Khán Bahádur, Nawáb, Ráis or Maulvi in order to induce the public to patronise the Funds. Nor is this all. The names of certain Hindu shop-keepers and idle young men, who by the way were spoken of as Rái Sáhibs, Seths or Sáhúkárs, were also included in the list of Directors with the object of improving confidence in Hindús. And as a result of this astute plan thousands of persons, mostly poor, became members of the Funds, and money began to pour in from all sides. It is scarcely necessary to add that this money the Directors spent in the gratification of lust and in buying lands and building houses for themselves. The only persons who received bonuses from the Funds were the relations of the said worthies.

The Punjab National Bank.

13. The *Shamím-i Hind* (Jullundur), of the 2nd March 1902, says that a certain religious sect (the reference is to the Aryás), which has considerable influence in the Punjab, is at the bottom of the misunderstandings existing among the Directors of the Punjab National Bank. After remarking that it is to Lála Harkishen Lál that the Bank owes its origin and present prosperity, the Editor regrets that certain Directors and share-holders of the Institution, who belong to the above sect, are endeavouring to prevent the re-election of the Lála as a Director.

Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple.

14. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st March 1902, says that the sum of Rs. 1,000 recently sent to Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple, by the Rája of Nábha for distribution among several Gurdwárás has been handed over to Naráin Singh, Pujári of Baba Attal. Originally the Colonel intended crediting the amount to the Langar Fund, which affords excellent opportunities of embezzlement. But the Colonel is also hand and glove with Naráin Singh, and could not have made over the money to the latter for nothing. The Editor then remarks that should the defrauded Gurdwárás be unwilling to move in the matter, the Rája of Nábha should ask for a refund of the gift and have the same distributed according to His Highness's wishes.

The same.

15. The same paper, of the 8th March 1902, calls upon Sikh Sardárs, Jagírdárs, Military Officers and Ruling Chiefs to co-operate with it in bringing the Manager to book. The Editor also requests them to inform him of the nature and value of the offerings made by them at the Golden Temple during the next five years, so that he may know for certain what becomes of the same.

Misuse of religious endowments.

16. The same paper, in continuation of its previous remarks about the misuse of religious endowments (*vide* paragraph 15 of Selections No. 6 of 1902), calls upon the authorities to order prompt inquiries into the matter. The Editor then promises to lay bare the misdeeds of certain Mahants and Jagírdárs residing in the Sultánwand and Ghee Mandi quarters of Amritsar.

Jesus Christ.

17. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 21st and 28th February 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 9 of the Selections No. 8), says that the Bishop of Lahore asserts that Christ used to talk a great deal about God,

the Father, and lay considerable stress on the unique character of his own personality. This would, however, show that God and the founder of Christianity are two distinct beings,—a belief which clashes with one of the fundamental tenets of the said faith. Again, in support of the claim that Christ was a peerless personage, Mr. Lefroy quotes John VI, 51, which runs as follows:—"I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever." But apparently the life referred to in this verse is spiritual and not eternal life, while it is a sad fact that those who eat of the bread in question lack even spirituality. It is, therefore, disappointing in the extreme that in spite of the words quoted above the Saviour of Christendom should have been unable to make even one man "live for ever." Indeed, the disappointments he had to meet throughout life have not fallen to the lot of any other person claiming to have been a messenger from the Almighty. That this is no idle assertion is clear from the fact that his teachings proved powerless to purge even his disciples of low thoughts, ignorance and worldliness. Besides, the cowardice and want of faith betrayed by these worthies in connection with the crucifixion of this queer Christian God are sufficient to prove that the aforesaid teachings are worthless and that he who inculcated the same is dead for ever. This being so, it is ludicrous in the extreme to represent Christ as bread, of which those who eat shall live for ever; for when the men who were always with him and witnessed the miracles he is said to have wrought could not rise above self and live in God, it is idle to expect better things from other Christians. The Editor then goes on to say that the Bible lays down no laws for the guidance of man, nay, it calls all laws a curse. This, he adds, is not only an insult to human faculties, but is also calculated to create doubts regarding the existence of God and spread atheism in the world. It may be mentioned here that the few injunctions contained in the book named are so worthless, defective and nonsensical as to make it impossible for those who act upon them to escape (spiritual) death. The Editor further remarks that the doctrine of the Trinity not only proves the Bible to be a false book, but also clashes with the laws of nature and the teachings of every (non-Christian) prophet. Again, the man whom Christians have set up as their God has been given a character which would be unbecoming even in a great man. As to Biblical commandments regarding morality, they are still more contemptible. Indeed, a book which does not teach how to know God cannot enable one to control one's passions. It is true that the Bible teaches humility and mildness; but, although excellent in themselves, these virtues not infrequently prevent the growth of certain powers of man and clash with the principles of political philosophy. Indeed, the fact that Christian Powers have themselves had to devise political laws furnishes a strong proof of the defective character of the teachings of the Bible.

18. The same paper, of the 21st February 1902, publishes a report of a discourse by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, who says that a perusal of the story of Christ's life would show that, far from being the son of God, he is unfit to be called even a prophet. Indeed, a man who knew nothing about the day of judgment and was ignorant when fig trees put forth fruit, could not have been what his followers

The same.

give him out to be. Again, the fact that he represented himself to have been both God and man at one and the same time raises the question if he was not a deceiver. After remarking that Christ was not even a great man, the Mirza alleges that in a life of his written by a Jew he is stated to have fallen in love with a certain girl and been expelled the school for having talked of her beauty in the presence of his teacher. Besides, the Bible shows that he was fond of the company of strange women and used to have himself annointed with *attar* by a certain prostitute. The disclosures made in the above book regarding certain of his maternal and paternal grandmothers, as also the accusations preferred against his mother by the Jews, are also public property. In these circumstances, his objection to being called good was significant and not dictated by motives of humility. It may be here asked if a man whose personal character and ancestry were such as have been described above, could possibly have been God. After remarking that Christ appears to have been a thoroughly weak and illiterate person, the "Prophet" of Kádián adds that the former's veracity is also not above question. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that at first he gave out that he had been sent to restore the throne of David, and advised his disciples to sell off their clothes and buy swords with the proceeds. When, however, the nature of the task was brought home to him he turned round and declared that all he had meant was the establishment of the kingdom of heaven on earth, as if David's throne was a heavenly one. Mirza Ghulám Ahmad then goes on to say that according to impartial critics Paul was not a man of good moral character. A perusal of certain historical books would show that he was in love with the daughter of a certain Jewish priest and at first cruelly persecuted Christians. Nay, Christ's followers themselves admit that he was a hard-hearted and bad man. Again, in the Mirza's opinion he is the real author of all the evils and schisms to be found in the Christian religion. It is also incredible that Christ who foretold the treatment he was to receive at the hands of Peter and Judas Iscariot, should have made no prophecy about the advent of a great Christian apostle. This being so, nothing that Paul said can be regarded as authoritative. Besides, his teachings are mere propositions unsupported by arguments. The Mirza adds that the Bible alone is sufficient to disprove the assertion that the founder of Christianity was also God. Indeed, if he was really the Lord of the Universe why did he not work miracles which could have established his claim to Godhood? As it is, all the miracles wrought by him were nothing but cures such as European mesmerists, Hindús, &c., are experts in effecting. Besides, he was so ill-informed as to declare a certain person suffering from epilepsy to have been possessed of a devil! After remarking that Christ was a thorough personification of weakness and helplessness, the "Prophet" of Kádián endeavours to prove that certain prophesies contained in certain ancient books and adduced in support of the claims set up on the former's behalf contradict one another. As regards the character of the evidence to be found in the Bible, the Hebrew original of the said book not being forthcoming, it may reasonably be considered to have been manipulated. The Mirza further remarks that the prevailing Christianity was not taught by Christ, but that it is an invention of St. Paul's. He then ridicules the assertion made by one Imád-ud-dín some years back that the washing of hands three times in performing *wusu* (ablutions before *namáz*) was a symbol of

Trinity; and observes that in this way one could invent as many Gods as one chose. He adds that the Reverend Rajab Ali was greatly put out at the above assertion and characterised it as an insult to Christianity. Nay, being a wit the latter remarked that Imád-ud-dín had omitted one argument in support of the doctrine of Trinity, and proceeded to refer to the same which, however, decency forbids the Mirza to repeat.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

19. The same Paper announces that Mírza Ghulam Ahmad has given up his intention of holding an examination of his followers on the coming 'Id day (*vide* paragraph 11 of the Selections No. 5). It may be added that the rapid increase of the bubonic plague and the inadvisability of holding a gathering which would have included persons from infected places, have induced the Mirza to come to this decision. The tour which Mirza Khuda Bakhsh was to have undertaken in the interests of the Ahmadi Mission (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 5) has also been postponed owing to the spread of the epidemic.

Islám and religious wars.

20. One Guru Pirzára, writing to the *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 7th March 1902, remarks that of late not a few Muhammadans have been endeavouring to prove that the Qurán does not countenance the waging of *jehád*s. Had, however, an Aurangzeb or a Mahmud been the present ruler of India many a verse from the said book would have been quoted to justify religious wars and the slaying of non-Muhammadans. But even as it is, among others the frontier tribes look upon *jehád*s as the life and scul of Islám and are encouraged in this belief by their Mullahs. The writer would like to know if Muhammadans would agree to discard the Qurán in case it is proved to countenance the wars in question.

VII.—General Administrtion.

(a)—Judicial.

A contradiction.

21. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 8th March 1902, learns that there was no truth in the rumour regarding an altercation between the Munsif of Ráwalpindi and a local Pleader (*vide* paragraph 17 of the Selections No. 10.) The Editor regrets that he should have given publicity to the same.

A complaint against the Munsif of Rúpar.

22. The *Súraj* (Ambala), of the 3rd March 1902, understands that the Munsif of Rúpar usually appoints one Lachhman Dás, a local Brahman, to serve as a commissioner in Civil suits. The Editor adds that this is against the rules, and invites the attention of the District Judge to the matter.

Complaint against an Honorary Magistrate at Kasúr, Lahore District.

23. The *Punjab Samáchar* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 19 of the Selections No. 1), reports that the gentleman who was recently wounded by a certain Honorary Magistrate at Kasúr has died from the effects of the injury. This has brought the local Police to their senses and made them realize their duty in the matter.

It may be added that efforts are being made to prove that the pistol was wielded not by the Magistrate but by a companion of his. The Police should, however, enquire if the latter had any legal authority to keep and use the said arm.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

Mr. Gardiner, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

24. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st March 1902, after remarking that Mr. Gardiner, Secretary to the local Municipal Committee, has given Muhammad Dín, the Conservancy Darogha, a further promotion of Rs. 20, alleges that some time back a certain Municipal employé was heard to complain that Darogha Tára Singh had been dividing into shares the money made by all servants of the Municipality in addition to their pay; that those who agreed to part with a portion of this money were allowed to work in their posts, but that every one declining to do so was transferred where he would not be able to make extra money. In a word, says the Editor, promotions as well as posts—including those of candidates in the Municipal Office—are being sold to the highest bidders, while contractors have to give (? the Secretary) a part of their profits. It may be added that certain poor candidates are said to have borrowed money, and presented (? to Mr. Gardiner) *ddlis* worth Rs. 5 or Rs. 7 each, and that they were told that their claims would be considered on some future occasion. After remarking that the men employed in connection with the coming elections had also to make presents (? to the said gentleman), the Editor alleges that one Abdul Aziz has been appointed Inspector of the local slaughter-house on payment of a certain sum of money; that the latter, in his turn, demands a large annual amount from the butchers; and that as these individuals do not agree to this they are being harassed by the Inspector. It may be added that a few days back they submitted a representation to the Secretary, but that the same has probably been filed. In conclusion, the Editor complains that although the pay of Municipal sweepers is fixed at Rs. 5 a man, they receive only Rs. 3 per month, the balance going into the pockets of Conservancy Daroghas and Jemadárs.

The same.

25. The same paper, of the 8th March 1902, alleges that the chief counsellors of Mr. Gardiner are Daroghas Tára Singh, Abdul Qádir and Bhagwán Dás and Accountant Siráj-ud-dín. Strangely enough, however, it is these very persons who are giving the Secretary a bad name and divulging his secrets. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that the first-named individual is going about saying that he has presented certain pieces of furniture to the officer named, who, however, hold receipts from the former for the price thereof. Likewise, Abdul Qádir, Lighting Darogha, has been giving out that Mr. Gardiner is thoroughly in his hands. Indeed, although complaints are rife against the man, so far no notice has been taken of them. After remarking that Bhagwán Dás and Siráj-ud-dín have also been telling stories about the Secretary, the Editor advises that gentleman to give the said worthies a wide berth, as they will not hesitate to benefit themselves at his or the Municipality's expense.

The same.

26. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that one Ghulám Muhammad, who was a waterman in the employ of the local Municipality up to 1889 and had since been working as a chaprási in the firm of Messrs. Ralli Brothers, recently presented 200 portraits of the late Queen-Empress to Mr. Gardiner and has, in return, been appointed a Náib Octroi Inspector on Rs. 20 per mensem. It may be mentioned here that when recommending the man to the Octroi Sub-Committee, the Secretary spoke of him as a scion of a respectable and ancient family and an able and honest man, who had run through his property for want of employment! After remarking that never before has a Náib Inspector been appointed on pay of Rs. 20, the writer says that the said Ghulám Muhammad is asking all Municipal employés to collect portraits of the deceased Queen, present the same to Mr. Gardiner, and receive promotion in return.

The Inspector of foods at Amritsar.

27. The same paper, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 23 of the Selections No. 9), says that the Civil Surgeon has recommended Doctor Pholo Rám, a retired Hospital Assistant, for the post of Inspector of foods. It is not, however, easy to understand why the present incumbent, who is to be retired owing to his having attained the age of 55, should be succeeded by a pensioner and an enfeebled old man.

A proposal to levy house-tax in Delhi.

28. The *Roshna Delhi Gazette* (Delhi), of the 6th and 8th March 1902, publishes an open letter to the Lieutenant-Governor in which it is alleged that the imposition of the proposed house-tax in Delhi would mean the ruin of the agriculturists residing in the Sabzi Mandi, seeing that they are already groaning under the burden of the existing Municipal taxes,—six in number. Indeed, some of them are thinking of leaving Delhi, while others, of a more sanguine temperament, are anxiously awaiting the orders of the Punjab Government on the memorials submitted to it on the subject. The writer of the letter then alleges that for the last three years the local Municipality has been imposing taxes in quick succession, and points out the desirability of allowing the people some breathing time. He wishes to mention here that during the last few years dwelling houses in Delhi have been greatly damaged by the rains and that the owners of not a few had to borrow in order to repair or rebuild the same. After remarking that the recent famines have also told on the purse of the people, he suggests that the proposed tax should be dropped.

A complaint in connection with the sweeping of the streets and lanes of Lahore.

29. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, complains that the sweeping, &c., of most of the streets and lanes of Lahore is not finished even by 8 A.M, and that the people are consequently put to much inconvenience. The Editor is of opinion that the Lahore Municipality should follow the example of its sister Municipality of Amritsar and see that the sweepers, &c., commence their work at an early hour and finish it by 5 or 6 A.M.

(d)—*Education.*

The Indian University Commission.

30. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th March 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 26 of Selections No. 10), complains that the varying standard of University examinations is a source of considerable hardship to students. Again, the questions asked at these examinations are of a set type, which encourages the habit of cramming. It, therefore, appears desirable that in future failed candidates should be re-examined in those subjects alone in which they fail. The Editor also suggests the appointment of Moderators, in order to ensure uniformity and prevent unusually stiff papers being set at University examinations. He then takes exception to the inclusion of selections from the Arabian Nights (in Arabic) and the Rig Veda in the Persian and Sanskrit B. A. Courses respectively of the Punjab University, remarking that the English translations of the same are generally committed to memory and reproduced in the Examination Hall. The Editor is also of opinion that Secondary Schools should be replaced under the control of Government, as Municipal and District Boards have proved unequal to the task. In conclusion, he suggests that the Educational Service should be popularized by improving the present rates of salaries to teachers.

The first Director-General of Education in India.

31. Writing about the selection of Mr. Orange to fill the newly created post of Director-General of Education in India, the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, remarks as follows :—

"Mr. Orange's qualifications for the post are not at all known. He has been hitherto discharging the comparatively obscure duties of Private Secretary to Sir George Kekewich, Secretary to the English Board of Education, on a modest salary of £150 per mensem (? annum) besides being a Junior Examiner. It seems a rather risky experiment to begin the work of Director-Generalship of Indian Education with a young man of no experience in Indian education, and the members of the Indian Educational Service may well take the appointment as a slur upon their reputation. Couldn't the Service furnish a suitable man so that the Government had to go out afield and import a novice about whom everybody must ask "who and what is Mr. Orange?" Lord Curzon is undoubtedly a bold man in making experiments."

The Khálsa College.

32. The *Ahluwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st March 1902, writing about the Khálsa College, says that the post of Secretary to the College Council should be held by an educated, well-connected, experienced and honest person, who should, besides, be a resident of Amritsar or Lahore. After suggesting the names of Bábu Attar Singh (a Pleader at Amritsar) and Sardár Sundar Singh of Majítha for the post, the Editor remarks that the Council should be reconstituted on the lines recently suggested by Sir Mackworth Young. Efforts should also be made to collect subscriptions promised towards the College Fund. Again, if possible, the institution should be presided over by a Native Principal, as is the case with the Dayánand and Islámia Colleges at Lahore. The Editor concludes by exhorting the Sikhs to do their duty by the Khálsa College and make it a flourishing concern.

33. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 28th February 1902, after alleging that some time back the President of a certain Arya Samáj tried to dissuade another Arya gentleman from sending his son to the Gurúkul, remarks that there is no truth in the assertion made by certain suspicious and narrow-minded persons that to send boys to the said institution is tantamount to offering them as sacrifices at a burning altar. But even if it were so, the Editor would like to know if "our" children can do better than be burnt at the holy altar named. He, therefore, advises his co-religionists to patronize the Gurúkul and not to listen to selfish and worldly-wise persons.

The Gurúkul.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

34. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, complains of the want of a suitable waiting room at the Badámi Bágh Station on the North-Western Railway, and makes remarks similar to those published by the *Rafiq-i-Hind* on the subject (*vide* paragraph 31 of the Selections No. 10).

Want of a waiting room at the Badámi Bágh Station.

35. A correspondent of the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 10th March 1902, complains that there being no platform at the Alla Station (? on the Sind-Sagar Railway) passengers not infrequently fall down in alighting from the the train. Indeed, only recently such an accident befell a female passenger and resulted in severe injuries to her knees. The writer adds that the Haria Station being one mile distant from the village of the same name and the road between the two places being infested with robbers, the passengers leaving the train at Haria at night have to stay there till morning. There is, however, no waiting room at the station, and they are subjected to great inconvenience in consequence.

A Railway complaint.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

36. The *Patiála Akhbár* (Patiála), of the 7th March 1902, says that the rumour that the Editors of selected newspapers will also be invited to the coming Delhi Darbár has not been confirmed up to the present. Nor is it known what considerations or rules will regulate the selection. It is, however, extremely desirable that journalists should be allowed to attend the Darbár, and that a notification to this effect should be published beforehand.

The coming Delhi Darbár and native journalists.

37. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th March 1902:—

The plague.

"The complaint is universal in the native community that the Sirkár has swung back from an attitude of too obtrusive solicitude to the other extreme of "let-them-alone lkkewarmness." Perhaps the Government has misunderstood the popular clamour against the old Regulations. Can any one honestly deny that the manner in which the Regulations were at first worked was as harassing as oppressive? It was the stories of sufferings of the people coming from the Bombay side that roused the fears of the populace in Northern India. The searching of houses by European soldiers, not excluding

the sexes; forced segregation of suspects and contacts; the destruction of household effects in the name of sanitation; the compulsory removal of patients, and such like reports from the Western Presidency excited the great bulk of the population from Assam to the Deraját to almost a frenzy of alarm. It is the methods that at first prevailed in Bombay and Poona that the people are dead against, and it would indeed be a pity if the Government were led to imagine that the natives were against *all* preventive and remedial measures. * * * * Just now an impression is gaining ground among the ignorant populace that the Sirkár has resolved to teach the troublesome people a lesson! Irritated and rendered uneasy by the distrustful attitude of, and the indications of a tendency to oppose by force in, the masses the Sirkár (according to the bazár sages) has resolved to 'let the native stew in their own juice'! There is no escape from fault-finding either way. Therefore, the wisest thing would be to follow the course indicated by a sincere solicitude for the welfare of the teeming population. As Government has done many a time before, so it will have to do again and again, *viz.*, to save the people in spite of them.

"Unless the following rules are scrupulously observed no town or village in the Punjab will escape infection:—

"1. Prohibition of contacts to go wherever they list. Jammu, Siálkot, Kasúr, Ludhiána, Jullundur, Ambala Cantonment are all infected, yet people from these towns are pouring into the non-infected places by hundreds. The contacts should not be allowed to leave before they have undergone 10 days' quarantine, and their luggage should be thoroughly fumigated. The suspects need not be detained, but their clothing, &c., should be disinfected and an eye should be kept on them.

"2. The exchange of merchandise and other things between infected and non-infected towns should be stopped, as far as possible.

"3. Not only the great annual pilgrimage to Dhankal, Pákpattan and Sakhi Sarwar but all excepting strictly local fairs should be stopped."

The same.

38. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th March 1902, after deprecating the measures originally adopted by Government to stamp out the plague, remarks that the people have always looked upon segregation as a greater pestilence than the epidemic itself. The Editor adds that the present policy of placing Municipalities in charge of plague operations and paying greater attention to the sanitation of towns is expected to prove more effectual in the suppression of the disease.

The same.

39. The *Khair Khwah-i-Hind* (Delhi), of the 8th March 1902, remarks that as the plague is spreading in the Punjab, it is highly desirable that all persons intending to leave an infected place should be subjected to a medical examination at the station from which they wish to start and that those found to be suffering from the disease should not be permitted to leave the station in question. This suggestion would, if adopted, prevent sufferers being

put to unnecessary inconvenience and at the same time preclude the possibility of their carrying the infection to places that have hitherto enjoyed immunity from the scourge.

40. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, urges that the Deputy Commissioner of Lahore should, as a matter of precaution, take steps to prevent the entry of persons suffering from plague into the city, as otherwise the disease is likely to obtain a footing in Lahore. Steps are of course taken by the Plague Committee to watch arrivals from infected places, but this (the Editor fears) is not sufficient, because if a plague patient dies in the city he may possibly leave behind the plague bacilli and communicate the disease to others. The Editor therefore urges that, in order to save the city from the danger with which it is threatened, arrivals from infected areas should be inspected either at the Railway Station or at a house situated in its vicinity.

The same.

41. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a Supplement, dated 7th March 1902, writes that the Deputy Commissioner of Shahpur is doing everything in his power to prevent the plague spreading to Bhera and stamp out the epidemic in certain villages in the district. An able Bengali Doctor has been imported from Jullundur in order to conduct inoculation operations, and 25 persons, including the Náib Tahsíldár and Assistant Surgeon at Bhera, have already been inoculated. The Editor adds that a few days back certain mischief-makers in the said town spread disquieting rumours and gave out that inoculation brought on an attack of plague. Nay, they went the length of alleging that the people were to be forcibly inoculated, which caused the majority of the local students to stay away from their schools. At length certain persons waited upon the Deputy Commissioner in this connection, when they were assured that compulsory inoculation was far from the mind of Government. That officer also issued a notice to re-assure the residents of Bhera.

The same.

42. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th March 1902, writing about the prevalence of the bubonic plague in Siálkot, suggests retrenchment under the following heads in order to provide funds for combating the disease :—

(1) That all Public Works, excepting the construction of drains, should be stopped.

(2) That the local Municipality should make no refunds till June next.

(3) That the increments of pay proposed for the Municipal employés should be held in abeyance.

(4) That the present strength of the Octroi Establishment should be reduced, which, says the Editor, would mean a saving of about Rs. 200 per annum.

The same.

43. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th March 1902, says that, in order to prevent the spread of the bubonic plauge to Amritsar, the local Municipality has sanctioned a further monthly expenditure of Rs. 800 in connection

with the sanitation of the city. The Editor is, however, afraid that the amount is certain to be wasted, for it is impossible to achieve the object in view through the local Municipal employés. The reason for this is that his last illness having prevented him riding a horse Mr. Gardiner will not be able to supervise the arrangements personally, without which nothing worth the name can be achieved. But it is equally true that the plague is spreading with rapid strides; and if it is to be kept out of Amritsar the Municipality should be up and doing. After remarking that the present Conservancy Inspector and his *Náibs* cannot cope with the task, the writer suggests that some highly-placed official should be told off to improve the sanitation of Amritsar, till such time at least as Mr. Gardiner is able to ride again.

The same.

44. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1902, says that it has received a long letter from one N. L. Beri of Ludhiána, who speaks in very high terms of the work done and the tact displayed by Dr. Fatteh Chand, the local Civil Surgeon, in connection with the outbreak of the bubonic plague in that city. The correspondent adds that the people, who at first turned a deaf ear to the Doctor's advice and suffered in consequence, now cheerfully obey his directions and are unanimous in singing his praises. And to tell the truth he has been sacrificing his own rest to do good to the residents of Ludhiána.

Pandit Gopi Náth.

45. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that one of the gentlemen present at the recent distribution of prizes to the students of the local Government College remarked that the sketches published in the *Akhbár* under the headings "chú chú ká murabba" (*vide* paragraph 8 of the Selections No. 2 of 1902) were very interesting. The correspondent informed the aforesaid gentleman that the remaining instalments would furnish still more entertaining and instructive reading, and that Pandit Gopi Náth, who was an able writer and a man possessed of every virtue, was the author of the sketches.

Kázi Siráj-ud-dín Ahmad's return from England.

46. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 8th March 1902, announces that Kázi Siráj-ud-dín Ahmad, who has returned from England, will reach Ráwalpindi on the 12th idem.

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjáz Railway.

1. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 10th March 1902, regrets that since the last two months there has been a falling-off in the matter of subscriptions towards the Hejdáz Railway Fund received in its own office as well as in that of the *Watan*. It is true that the amounts subscribed previously were not large, but even small sums are not now forthcoming. The Editor then exhorts the Musalmáns of India to realize their duty in the matter and to make handsome contributions towards the Fund on the occasion of the 'Id-ul-Zuha, remembering that the Railway has to be completed by the time the next season for pilgrimage to Mecca comes round.

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 6 of the Selections No. 8) says that the money received in its office up to the morning of the 12th idem amounts to Rs. 1,494 and a few annas. The amount does not include the value of ornaments received in aid of the projected Railway; and if things go on at this rate it is not improbable that the Editor may be in a position to remit over Rs. 3,000 on the 1st proximo.

The same.

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 7th March	...	1,149	10	6
1. Received from the Hedjáz Railway Fund Committee, Sirsa ...	...	310	0	0
2. Received through Maulvi Muhammad Abdus Samad, Darbangha	...	34	10	0
Total	...	1,494	4	6
Amount already remitted to Turkey	...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	2,566	7	6

(b)—*Home.*

The British garrison in India.

4. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th March 1902, after referring to the proposal to make the Indian Exchequer bear half of the cost of the bounties for time-expired soldiers, says that the well-wishers of India are honestly convinced that the strength of the British garrison in this country is unnecessarily large. They argue that the number of British soldiers in Hindustán immediately after the Sepoy Mutiny was 50,000; that natives are now far more law-abiding and loyal than they were in the fifties; and that consequently a reduction of 25,000 should be made in the present strength of the garrison. They add that this would reduce the military expenditure by 4½ crores of rupees a year, and suggest that this money should be spent in improving the present wretched condition of the agriculturists. The Editor then reproduces the remarks made by Mr. Caine on the subject in the course of his recent speech in the House of Commons.

India and bounties for time-expired soldiers.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th March 1902, takes exception to the proposal to charge to the Indian Exchequer half the cost of the bounties for time-expired soldiers, and after comparing India to a milch-cow and England to a person who clamours for more and more milk in season and out of season, proceeds to remark as follows:—

"But even a milch-cow's capacity of yielding milk has a limit, beyond which it is more the drawing of life-blood than of milk; and when periods of starvation follow one another in quick succession, the aforesaid limit does not take very long to manifest itself. Even the most violent lovers of her milk ought to realise the absolute impropriety of making further demands upon her yielding capacity at such times. But Lord George Hamilton has thought otherwise. For side by side with his public avowal of the imperative necessity of keeping a strict and cautious watch over the finances of India—particularly in regard to the apportionment of common expenditure between the British and the Indian Exchequers—he has given utterance to the most astounding decision that this poor starving milch-cow of India—as if there is not enough drain of her life-blood already—will be required to bear half the cost of the bounties for time-expired soldiers! The absence from India of twenty thousand suckers of her milk—thanks to the South-African War—has scarcely had its effect on her decaying constitution when Lord George Hamilton interferes. The country has just been thinking of congratulating itself on the savings obtained from the employment of British Indian troops in South Africa—savings that could not but be a matter of congratulation in the present condition of India when a single cowrie cannot be suffered to be lost in vain—when Lord George Hamilton is down upon it again. The necessity of extending the service of time-expired men and the payment of bounties did not, it is to be noted, arise from India's needs. Far from it. But there is precedent for this landing of Peter's burden upon poor Paul's shoulders. Does not India pay for Jeddah? Did not India pay for the Egyptian War? Does not India pay for numerous other things in which her supposed interest is conspicuous by its absence? Is not a good part of the annual revenues of India taken

away to England to return never, never again? Why, then, should it not be proper for India to be compelled to contribute to the bounties for time-expired soldiers simply because the necessity of the extension of their service did not arise from her needs? Surely, we ought not to dispute the justification of a proceeding which is so amply supported by precedents of a decidedly indisputable character. Only we wish Lord George Hamilton had not refused to India the proposed grant of five millions sterling when India was in dire need of England's pecuniary help to save her millions from starvation and disease."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The new Amír.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th March 1902, says that in its issue of the 5th idem the *Pioneer* reviews certain acts of the new Amír, and jumps to the conclusion that His Highness is a religious bigot and that he cannot be expected to prove a strong ruler like his deceased father. It may be added that had that paper also known that Habíb-ullah Khán acts as Imám in connection with Friday prayers and that he says *Nimáz* in all the mosques in Kábul by turns, it would have unhesitatingly declared that he should be appointed to serve in some mosque or shrine. The Editor then expresses the opinion that it is only by following the policy to which the *Pioneer* takes exception that the present Amír can convert Afghánistán into a great power and its inhabitants into useful members of the human race. Besides, the Anglo-Indian newspapers should rejoice that the Mulla of Hadda, who had hitherto been free from all restraint and used to foment disturbances in the tribal territory, is now in the hands of a ruler who considers England's friendship and peace on the frontier essential for the safety of his own kingdom.

The same.

7. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiána), of the 12th March 1902, also takes exception to the *Pioneer's* remarks, and says the late Amír had also to make use of the Mullas to keep his semi-barbarous subjects under control.

III.—Native States.

The Rájás of Suket and Bilaspur.

8. In reviewing that portion of the Punjab Administration Report for 1900-01 which refers to Native States, the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th March 1902, remarks as follows:—

"It is sometimes inexplicable how bad remarks are made about a State which may be called a model one. For instance, the administration of Suket is described unsatisfactory, and it is alleged that 'there exists widespread discontent among the people.' As a matter of fact, the Chief is a most conscientious ruler, who works harder than any State official and looks into everything personally. He never drinks, leads an exemplary pure life, is accessible to his meanest subject, is fairly well educated and has every detail of the administration at his finger's ends. He has unfortunately displeased his ruler, *viz.*, the Commissioner of Jullundur, and no one who has studied the whole case relating to the differences between the Prince and the Political Agent can honestly deny that right is on the side of the Chief. Is it not

strange that while rulers who live the life of sots, and have interest in nothing that does not concern the gratification of their appetites, are indirectly or directly praised, rulers like those of Suket and Biláspur are publicly censured. Who does not know that the poor Chief of Biláspur has been worried to death almost by undeserved troubles. He is a good-natured young man who tries to do his princely duties to the best of his ability. Yet from the remark in the Report one would be led to imagine that he does little beside making pilgrimages to Benares and squandering his resources there! The case with our Princes is not only that of *Tâke ser bhâji tâke ser khâja* (diamond priced the same as coal), but much worse."

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

Niyog and *muta'*.

9. The *Arya Musáfir Magazine* (Jullundur), for February (received on the 17th March) 1902, says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and Maulvís Firoz-ud-dín and Abu Rahmat, &c., being unable to refute any of the tenets of the Vedic religion, they have been exerting all their strength in condemning *niyog*. The objections, however, which they have raised apply not to the said doctrine, but to the Muhammadan *muta'*, and the worthies named have been, unwittingly or intentionally, confounding the former with the latter, although there is nothing in common between the two. The Editor, therefore, considers it necessary to tell his readers what *muta'* is; and for this purpose he cannot do better than reproduce an essay on the subject recently found among the papers of the late Pandit Lekh Rám. He has, however, modified the dissertation where necessary, and expresses the hope that it will prove entertaining reading. He then publishes the same. The Pandit opens with the definition that *muta'* is the cohabiting of several men with a woman during one and the same night on payment of a fixed fee, or living (*lit.* cohabiting) with a woman for a specified period in consideration of a fixed remuneration. After quoting extracts from the Qurán, &c., in support of this, the essayist alleges that it is written in the *Burhán-ul-Muta'* that Muhammad having performed *muta'* with a certain woman, his wives took him to task for his conduct, and that upon this he declared that *muta'* was not adultery, but "prompt" marriage. The Pandit also endeavours to show that *muta'* is permissible among Musalmáns, and that all the Prophet's companions, Ali and Abu Bakar, had taken women unto themselves by *muta'*. He then goes on to say that both the Sunni and Shía *Ulemas* are unanimous in holding that *muta'* was looked upon as a lawful practice and a divine ordinance during the time of both Muhammad and Abu Bakar. It is of course true that during his caliphate of four or five years Umar declared the same to be unlawful, and his opinion was endorsed by a section of the Sunnís. The rest, however, continued to follow the Prophet and do so up to the present. As for the Shiás, they believe that no one, who has not entered into *muta'*, can gain admission into paradise. They also hold that those who perform *muta'* once, twice, thrice, or four times attain to the position respectively of Hassan, Husain, Ali or Muhammad. After remarking that the ideas of Musalmáns regarding marriage and sexual intercourse are rather low, Pandit Lekh Rám remarks that a perusal of Islámic scriptures would show that at one time

muta' was decreed by God and represented to be a divine blessing; but that later, men's disapprobation compelled Him to declare the practice to be unlawful. In other words, there is no difference between good and evil, and that what is a sin at one time can, by God's order, become an act of merit at another, and *vice versâ*. This is, however, the foulest blot with which the sacred name of God can be stained. The Pandit then quotes an extract purporting to show that the Muhammadan religion allows owners to commit sodomy with their slaves; and proceeds to remark that the said faith offers the grossest insult to women and boys, and has thrown all sense of shame to the winds. Indeed, the tenets of Islám are such that those who believe in them can secure no spiritual or secular good for themselves. After observing that the Prophet's religion is the worst enemy of mankind, Lekh Râm exhorts Musalmáns to embrace the Vedic faith.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad.

10. The same paper says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has been interpreting the Qurán in his own way, and that if he continues this work the said book is certain to be dressed in an altogether new garb,—a work which even the Prophet's companions, &c., proved powerless to accomplish. As an instance in point, it may be stated that the Alrahmán part of the Qurán speaks of fountains of wine prepared from camphor and dried ginger; and says that after they have rendered the final account and entered paradise Muhammadans will be placed in possession of these fountains and supplied with wine, *kabábs* and *houris*. The Mirza, however, contends that the use of the word camphor signifies the calming of one's passions and abstaining from committing sinful acts. Again, he interprets the term *sanjbil* (dried ginger) in a way which clashes with its generally accepted meaning, alleging that the same indicates that after abandoning sinfulness one should walk in the path of righteousness and thereby secure for ones' self a place in heaven. The Qurán itself, however, does not support this interpretation, seeing that the reference to camphor and *sanjbil* pertains to a period subsequent to the day of judgment. But the Mirza thinks himself to be superior to the Prophet, and essays to correct the latter and nullify his sayings and opinions.

The same.

11. The same paper says that ever since Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has given himself out to be the promised Messiah and Mehdi he has never let a month pass without indulging in "inspired" gossip. But now that certain two or three of his disciples have settled at Kádián and imparted to him a "political" trick to catch simple-minded Muhammadans his "inspired" madness has so increased as to render him incapable of distinguishing even between truth and falsehood. For instance, in a recent issue of the *Hâkam* he makes the prepostrous statement that so far twenty crore books have been published against Islám. The Editor would challenge the Mirza to publish a list even of one crore such books within a year.

The same.

12. The Editor of the same paper says that in reply to an article published in its issue for December last (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 8) Maulvi

Abdul Karím, a disciple of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, has laid under contribution all the abusive epithets to be found in the Mirza's vocabulary and heaped abuse on his (the Editor's) devoted head (*vide* paragraph 11 of the said Selections). There is, however, nothing surprising in this; for those addicted to the use of abuse cannot be expected to behave in a gentlemanly manner, and civility and mildness are out of place in the followers of a religion which teaches nothing but ferocity. It is the teachings of the Qurán, adds the Editor, which have fouled the minds, brains and pens of the Ahmadís and their teacher. He then goes on to say that the Maulvi confirms his remark regarding lust being at the bottom of polygamy; and that consequently the dust raised by the latter settles down on his own head or the "Prophet" of Kádián's face. Abdul Karím has also failed to disprove that *jehád*s are the life and soul of Islám, and is wrong in denying that so far the said faith has been propagated by means of religious wars alone. Indeed, it is clearly stated in the Traditions that *jehád*s form an essential part of the Muhammadan religion; that they proved instrumental in spreading it in most of the countries of the world; and that their abandonment has lowered the position of Musalmáns, and made heathens powerful

The same.

13. The same paper publishes a communication from one Yugindar Pál, an Arya Samájist, who says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad is never tired of boasting that he can show signs beyond the power of man. But whenever he is challenged to do so, he resorts to diverse subterfuges in order to put off the trial. Should he, however, find it difficult to shake off a critic he invariably issues a *fatwa* sentencing the latter to death, as was done in the case of the late Pandit Lekh Rám. It may be mentioned here that the Mirza is of opinion that the Pandit's murder was a sign which ought to have convinced the Aryas of the truth of his claims. But, as the public is aware, this murder was the result of a prolonged and bloody conspiracy. Indeed, when his death was prophesied, the deceased Pandit wrote to the *Arya Gazette* to say that the prophesy foretold a conspiracy to murder or poison him. And this is what actually came to pass: the conspirators, who could not kill Lekh Rám openly for fear of their secret becoming known, resorted to secrecy and deception in order to gain their end. After remarking that the murder in question was the outcome of the enmity (? to non-Musalmáns) which the followers of Islám have inherited from the Prophet, and regretting that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad should regard his cunning and bloodthirstiness as superhuman powers, the writer challenges the Mirza to work certain miracles, promising to embrace the Ahmadi faith in case the miracles are wrought. Otherwise, he will proclaim to the world that the "Prophet" of Kádián can only tell lies, indulge in tall talk, and abuse and threaten others.

The same.

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th March 1902, says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's efforts to make the public believe that he is an inspired prophet clash with the spirit of the present age. Had the Mirza been born a few hundred years earlier, he would have perhaps succeeded in gaining his object or died a martyr in the attempt. As it is, however, he is labouring under a

delusion if he thinks that men of the present century are likely to listen to him and acknowledge his claims to be true. After remarking that the Mirza was wise in not claiming to possess the power to work miracles, and ridiculing the character of the prophecies so far made by him, the Editor alleges that Mulla Muhammad Bakhsh of Lahore has received a revelation to the effect that the Mirza has been inflicted with leprosy as a retribution for his blasphemous utterings. He also challenged the "Prophet" of Kádián to show his body to the persons present at the last anniversary meetings of the Anjuman-i-Himayát-i-Islám, Lahore, but the challenge was not accepted.

The same.

15. The *Hákam* (Kádián), in a Supplement, dated the 10th March 1902, publishes a notice under the signature of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, who says that owing to large numbers of seekers after truth visiting Kádián the expenses of the free kitchen established there have run up to Rs. 800 a month. So far the necessary money has, by the merest chance and through the grace of God, been forthcoming. Nevertheless, there can be no doubt that an institution, of which the permanent income (Rs. 60) falls far short of the expenditure, is bound to come to grief. It, therefore, appeared desirable that some satisfactory arrangements should be made for the maintenance of the kitchen, especially as a famine seems imminent. The Mirza then goes on to say that life being transient, it is his wish that he should have with him a number of old and poor persons, who would listen to his teachings and realize their spirit; and that seekers after God should flock to him from distant parts of the country in order to have their doubts removed and learn the way to God. He adds that the school started at Kádián is not only in an unsatisfactory financial condition, but that the students cannot be expected to spurn the world and devote their lives to the propagation of the Ahmadi faith. All his hopes, therefore, centre round such poor persons, as do not hanker after University degrees, earn what is absolutely necessary to maintain life, and are always anxious to become good men and please the Lord. The "Prophet" of Kádián then remarks that each and every one of his followers should let him know in writing the monthly amount he intends paying towards the maintenance of the kitchen, the subscriptions promised being such as the subscribers can conveniently pay. The names of those, from whom no promise is received within three months, or who fail to pay their subscriptions for three months consecutively, will be struck off the list of the Mirza's followers.

The Qurán.

16. One Yugindar Pál writing to the *Arya Musáfir Magazine* (Jullundur), for February 1902, says that the sacrifice of animals, idol-worship, pilgrimage, circumcision, &c., were prevalent among the Arabs, who were sunk in gross ignorance, even previous to Muhammad's time. The promulgation of the Qurán wrought very little change in the residents of Arabia, while the Prophet was illiterate and could only brandish his sword in the face of his critics. And as knowledge is always preferable to ignorance the other countries of the world, which were more enlightened than Arabia, looked upon the Qurán with contempt and no one was willing to accept this ferocious book (*lit.* this ferocity of the Arabs). Accordingly Muhammad had to gain his end by means of

the sword and fight the Arabs in order to make them believe in the Qurán. The writer then quotes a verse to show that the book in question was meant only for the residents of Mecca and their immediate neighbours.

A complaint in connection with the Fatehpuri Mosque at Delhi.

17. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th March 1902, alleges that on the night of the 6th idem tamborine-playing and singing were going on on that part of the roof of the Fatehpuri mosque which faces the Chándni Chowk. Such proceedings, adds the Editor, are out of place in a mosque, and may perhaps be followed by *nauches*. It is true that the said part of the roof is not used as a place of worship, still it forms part of the mosque. Besides, when Hindús are required to stop all music when passing a *musjid*, there is no reason why Muhammadans themselves should be lacking in reverence to their places of worship. The Editor then invites the attention of the Managing Committee of the Fatehpuri Mosque to the above, and requests it to prevent a recurrence of the scandal.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

A case of dakaiti in the Jhelum District.

18. The *Sirdj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 17th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that at about 12 o'clock on the night of the 10th idem 30 dakaits attacked the house of one Bhái Nihál Singh, a Sáhúkár of Bishandor, Jhelum district, while the latter was absent from home. Twelve of the dakaits entered the house, threatening to kill the inmates,—two women and an infant child,—if they were not told where the valuables in the house were deposited. They were obeyed and carried away a lot of silver and golden ornaments, which had been pawned to the Sáhúkár, as also a large amount of cash and other valuable property. The writer adds that, while a fight was going on between the dakaits outside the house and the residents of the village, one of the brigands kept shouting out from the roof of the house: "Muhammadan brethren, don't you oppose us. Let the Hindús do that." He further remarks that 10 Hindús and 2 Muhammadans were seriously wounded on the night in question, and that the occurrence has spread quite a panic in the village. He also praises the daring displayed by chaukídár Jewa on the occasion.

Sardár Gurdiál Singh, Mán.

19. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1902, says that it has received an anonymous letter in which the writer alleges to have seen Sardár Gurdiál Singh, Mán, at the Anand Station, Guzerát, in the guise of a *Sáahu*. He adds that the Sardár gives himself out to be a Brahman; that he never stays in a temple; and that at present he is at Súrat. The Editor doubts the genuineness of the communication, especially as the correspondent, who by the way is a resident of Peshawar, has donned the veil of anonymity. Again, while he represents to have posted the letter at Anand, the envelope bears the post-mark of Amrath. The Editor requests the writer to disclose his name, as also to communicate with the Inspector-General of Police, Punjab.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

The Municipal administration.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th March 1902, remarks that Municipalities which were meant to teach natives the art of self-government have failed to achieve this end, owing to self-seeking persons serving on them. These worthies, adds the Editor, would do anything to secure votes; but soon after their election begin to show themselves in their true colours. They pay no heed to the complaints of the poor, but are servile in their obedience to the orders of rich and influential persons. After stating that a European lady has brought an action for damages against the Mussouri Municipality for withdrawing permission granted to her to build a house, the Editor exhorts the public to exercise great tact and care in connection with the election of Municipal Commissioners, and remarks that only educated and able persons of independent views should be elected.

The Delhi Municipality.

21. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th March 1902, after reproducing Sir Mackworth Young's recent remarks regarding the defective system of Municipal elections, remarks that the Delhi Municipality is seriously mismanaged and affords great room for improvement. The Editor adds that a large number of local roads stand in need of repair; that the part of the city between the Khúni Gate and the Clock Tower is so filthy that it gives one a headache to pass through it; that some of the roads are never watered with the result that wayfarers are covered with dust; that the lanes in the central part of the city are in a still more deplorable condition; that Municipal sweepers are veritable Pharohs (? Jehús) and drive filth carts in such a careless manner that the contents thereof continue falling out along the route; that if remonstrated with they grow insolent; and that the quarters inhabited by the poor being dotted over with stinking heaps of filth are simply in an indescribable condition. This disgraceful state of things, adds the Editor, is attributable to negligence on the part of the elected Municipal Commissioners, who do not look to the comfort of their constituents, although they never miss an opportunity of making their power felt.

The same.

22. The same paper says that the educated inhabitants of Delhi should leave the proposed house tax alone and set to work to reform elected Municipal Commissioners. With the exception of one or two, all of the latter worthies are no better than figure heads. All that they do is to go and sit in chairs in the Committee room and come out transformed into so many Pharohs. All of them are idle drones and oppressors of His Majesty's poor subjects. The Editor then goes on to say that the persons who are raising an outcry over the proposed imposition of a house tax in Delhi should not lose sight of the fact that the residents of other cities have to pay far more taxes. He then enumerates the taxes imposed bythe Bangalore Municipality, and says that the Mysore Government is thinking of adding to the number still further. He does not mean to suggest that the Delhi Municipality should follow the example of Bangalore, but would merely ask whence it should get the money required for improving the sanitary condition of the city?

(d)—Education.

The Indian system of education.

23. A correspondent, writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th March 1902, says that the education imparted in Indian schools and colleges is not calculated to foster in its recipients either powers of observation or a desire for research. The sole object, he adds, with which it is acquired is to secure employment, while its final outcome is to convert "educated" natives into "other's" slaves. He, however, regrets that it is beyond the power of the people to remedy the evil and change the system of education in vogue in the country. It is the authorities alone who can remedy this deplorable state of affairs and bring the said system in line with that followed in Europe.

Government Colleges and their staff.

24. In the course of an article headed "University reform in the Punjab" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th March 1902, makes the following remarks:—

"The complaint is common in all parts of India that Government Colleges are being officered by men of mediocre ability. The pay and prospects open to these men are very much better than they were six years ago. For educational work none but first class men are required; and first class men of British Universities can do, as a rule, very much better at home than they ever can expect to do in India. Do what you may to make a Professorship in an Indian College attractive, the stamp of men who can do really good work will never think it worth their while to accept one. We cannot expect to get even second class men. Of course there are plenty of third class men who have not much to do in England, who are willing to come out here. The employment of these men does not serve much useful purpose. * * * As things stand at present the appointments in the Indian Educational Service are restricted to men of European *birth* and training. By removing the restriction relating to birth, and giving inducements to the people of this country to join this service, Government will be doing a distinct service to education. If natives of India who have had an English education and taken high Honours at British Universities were appointed to the Indian Educational Service, the staffs of Indian Colleges would certainly receive a welcome accession of strength. We have no objection to Professorships of English Language and Literature being invariably held by men whose mother tongue is English, but as regards the chairs of Philosophy, Mathematics, Science, History, natives of India, who have had highly successful careers at British Univesities, are sure to fill them with credit and distinction. We trust this matter will be placed clearly before Mr. Raleigh and his colleagues, who will, we hope, see their way to recommend the appointment of natives of India to the higher grades of the Educational Department. The department of Public Instruction in this country does not at present attract first class men among Indians. Indeed it is no exaggeration to say that only those who cannot get anything better anywhere else join the Education Department. If education in India is to be improved, it is absolutely necessary that the status as well as the emoluments of the natives of India engaged in it should be considerably improved."

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The prevailing drought and its consequences.

25. A Siálkot correspondent writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of 17th March 1902, about the prevailing drought and the impending famine, says that the only way to mitigate the hardships of the coming calamity is to forbid the export of the grain already stored in the country and likely to be harvested during the rabi season. This grain, adds the writer, will enable the people to tide over the difficulty, while in its absence things are certain to go hard with them. It may also be mentioned here that the bubonic plague being prevalent in India, the export of grain from the country is likely to spread the epidemic to the importing countries.

Agricultural banks.

26. Sultán Ahmad, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Sirsa, writing to the *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of 15th March 1902, about the proposal to establish agricultural banks in India, says that according to the present scheme the said banks will merely enable a *samindár* to borrow money for his requirements. But merely the facility to obtain loans is insufficient to improve the condition of the agriculturists. It is also necessary that they should learn to practise economy and help themselves, as also how to avoid indebtedness and to repay debts. After remarking that the lines on which it is proposed to run the banks in question cannot achieve this end and prove of real benefit to the *samindárs*, the correspondent expresses the opinion that the said institutions should be modelled after certain funds established in 1898 by Lieutenant Crosthwait, for the benefit of the *samindárs* of the Shujabad Tahsíl, Mooltan District (*vide* paragraphs 5 and 14 respectively of the Selections Nos. 30 and 38 of 1898), the necessary modifications being made in the rules and regulations of the funds. Should, however, the Government be unable to adopt this course, he would request it to advise the agriculturists to make the experiment themselves.

(g)—Postal matters.

Grievance of a Postal clerk.

27. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1902, says that some two or three months back the clerk attached to the Mukerián Post Office in the Hoshiárpur District received, through his official superiors, a summons requiring his presence at Nawashahr, in connection with a Civil suit. The summons was accompanied by an intimation that a substitute would be sent to relieve him. The clerk, however, wrote back to say that he had arranged to be represented by an agent and that there was no necessity for him to go to Nawashahr in person. But although information regarding the arrangement was communicated to the Postal authorities concerned 15 or 20 days previous to the date fixed for the hearing of the case, a substitute *was* despatched to relieve him. Being, however, under the impression that the said authorities knew of the arrangement in question, the clerk declined to relinquish charge of the Post Office and the substitute had to return to head-quarters. But strangely enough the Postmaster of Hoshiárpur deducted from his pay a sum of Rs. 8-8-0 on account of the travelling expenses

of the substitute, and this also when a journey from Hoshiárpur to Mukfián and back does not cost more than Rs. 2-8-0. Upon this the clerk applied to the Superintendent of Post Offices, Kángra Division, for permission to represent the matter to the Postmaster-General, but in reply he was ordered to "keep silent," *i e.* to give up the idea of appealing and put up with the loss of Rs. 8-8-0. After remarking that the Superintendent's decision is unjust, the writer expresses the hope that the Postmaster-General will inquire into the case.

Commission for money-orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5.

28. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1902, is gratified to learn that the efforts of the Press have at last borne fruit, and that the Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the proposal regarding the reduction to one anna of the commission for money-orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5. The Editor then remarks that if newspapers united in asking for a reduction of charges for deferred Press telegrams, Lord Curzon would be certain to grant the request. Indeed, the minimum charge for such messages in the case of Ceylon is already annas four, while the charge per word for inland telegrams in Europe is from 1½ to 3 pies. After remarking that in England only annas 12 are charged for a telegram of 100 words, the Editor alleges that the proposed reduction would increase Government's income from the Telegraph Department, as the same is very likely to lead to urgent letters being wired instead of being despatched by post.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The coming Delhi Darbár.

29. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th March 1902, says that there is no necessity for changing the date of the coming Dehli Darbár even if it should coincide with that of the 'Id-ul-Fitr, as the Darbár need not be held in the morning when 'Id prayers are offered. Indeed, the Assemblage of 1877 was convened in the afternoon, and most probably the same will be the case on the present occasion.

Shooting accidents.

30. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 13th March 1902, publishes the following:—

"There has been, so to say, a recrudescence of shooting 'accidents' of late. Immediately following the two typical cases reported in these columns the other day comes the report of one more similar 'accident' from Thána in the Bombay Presidency. The hero is one Major Anderson and the victim a poor Indian villager. The officer was enjoying shooting when a bullet missed its original victim and found its way—a European's bullet is rarely known to go in vain—straight into the unprepared body of an indifferent villager. Through the meritorious acts of his forefathers, so says a correspondent, the poor fellow has survived the 'accident,' and the gallant Major is defending himself in the Court against a charge of carelessness resulting in physical injuries to a human being. We do not wish to anticipate the result of the trial in the present affair, but circumstances fully entitle the public to point out, whenever they have an opportunity to do so, that so long as an example is not made of a careless shikári of the type that figures in the Court

now and then, shooting 'accidents' will not cease to occur now and then—let the authorities issue circulars about shooting passes unto the end of Time. Indian shikáris, we are glad, are never known to mistake European gentlemen for wild game, for then the authorities would at last have to shake off their lethargy in order to undergo the unusual trouble of moving their limbs effectively in the direction of devising preventive measures."

Honorary appointments and their holders.

31. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th March 1902, remarks that it is a mistake on the part of the Government to confer titles and honorary posts upon persons unworthy of the same, and then keep no watch on the doings of these individuals. The authorities, adds the Editor, should try to find out what incentive the said worthies have in exerting themselves and spending their hard-earned money in securing such distinctions. After remarking that their sole object in doing so is to prey upon the smaller fry, he alleges that a certain member of this fraternity who holds an honorary appointment is making several thousands a month, whereas formerly his income amounted to a few hundreds. There are also certain other persons, who take advantage of their honorary official position not only to make their own living, but also to provide means of support for their relations and hangers-on; while yet another class of such officials use their powers to crush their opponents.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—31-3-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 13.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 29th March 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 13.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 29th March 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Boer War.

1. The *Wafadár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, remarks that the patience and perseverance displayed by Great Britain in connection with the Boer War are beyond all praise. The Editor, however, regrets that the enormous expenditure of British blood and money in South Africa has so far led to no satisfactory results.

The same.

2. A correspondent of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1902, writing on the same subject, says that there can be no doubt that the British Empire is a unique spectacle in the history of the world, and that its resources are truly great. Nevertheless, it should not be forgotten that at the rate at which money is being spent in South Africa at present even the treasures of Crœsus cannot last for long. It is, therefore, to be regretted that the Ministry should show no signs of giving in and restoring peace in the Transvaal. The writer then goes on to say that the history of the Boer War is on all fours with that of the Afghán War of 1877-78. Then, as on the present occasion, the prestige of Great Britain was represented to be in danger, and it was asserted that only a small force would suffice to vanquish the enemy and annex his country. So far the developments of both the wars have also been identical; and just as the occupation by Government of Kábul, Kandahár and other cities did not reconcile the Afgháns to British rule, the passing of Pretoria, &c., out of the hands of the Boers has failed to make them lay down their arms. The correspondent adds that it was the late Mr. Gladstone who terminated the Afghán War by offering magnanimous terms to the Afghá: s and thereby extricated his country from a difficult position. He then expresses the wish that another Gladstone would rise up at the present juncture and induce the Britons to desist from squandering their resources and weakening themselves by continuing the Boer War. It is true that those responsible for this wretched war would raise an outcry over such a proposal just as was done when the Grand Old Man proposed to end the Afghán War; but the opposition would be certain to spend itself in a short time. It may be mentioned here that the

Transvaalers are human beings after all, and that they are a warlike and patriotic people, averse to living under foreign rule, in which respect, by the way, they resemble the Afgháns. The writer feels confident that if they were treated in a generous manner and restored to independence on conditions similar to those imposed in the case of Afghánistán they would prove themselves to be friendly neighbours.

The Hedjáz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th March 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	8,025	0	4
1. Muhammad Ishfáq, son of Shekh Abdul Waháb, Leather Merchant, Delhi	...	5	0	0
2. Muhammad Abdus Samad, of Kotla, Bijnour District	... ...	7	1	0
3. Munshi Ahmad Khán, Lahore	...	3	0	0
Total	...	8,040	1	4

Japan and Indian students.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 20th March 1902, concludes an article on "Japan and Indian students" with the following remarks:—

"With the number of Indian students in Japan increasing every day, the Japanese University is fully justified in demanding that Indian students desiring to obtain technical education in Japan should care to acquire some knowledge of the Japanese language. Our contemporary of the *Marhatta* rightly points out that it is enough for us if the Japanese allow us free access to their schools, colleges, laboratories and manufactories, which are intended for Japanese and not for Indian students, and that if the Indian student cannot make the best of them it will be his own fault. One of the disappointed Indian students expressed his opinion in these columns to the effect that if one could not get technical education in Japan without learning the Japanese language, why should he not learn the more respectable German or English language and go to Germany or England or America? We do not object to one's becoming so much more energetic in the matter of linguistic attainments and so much more daring in facing social and pecuniary responsibilities as going to Germany or England or America entails. But if he is acquainted with the experiences of Messrs. Nil Kuntha, Wagle and Talati, will he dare to expect that he will obtain as much free access to the laboratories and manufactories of those countries as he will in Japan? As regards the hint of another disappointed student that Indians are beginning to be less and less liked in Japan every day, we have had reason to point out that Indians are, on the other hand, beginning to be more and more liked in Japan every day, and that there is a growing desire among the Japanese to promote closer relations between India and Japan. Japanese students are coming over to India to

learn Sanskrit and Pali, and it may not be generally known that Swami Vivekananda is just now on his way to Japan, on special invitation, to enlighten the Japanese on Vedanta philosophy."

(b)—Home.

India and bounties for time-expired soldiers.

5. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, writing about the proposal that this country should pay half the cost of the bounties proposed for time-expired soldiers, remarks that it is not easy to understand how the Indian Exchequer, which is not overfull, will be able to bear this new burden. Besides, why should India be saddled with the cost of the maintenance of forces which England requires for Imperial purposes, and a part of which is to be stationed in the British colonies? It may be added that although this country is so poor that Lord Welby's Commission had, after exhaustive enquiries, to recommend a reduction in its public expenditure, the Secretary of State for India feels no hesitation in adding to its liabilities still further.

Transport impressment.

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 25th March 1902, in commenting on Mr. Thorburn's article on transport impressment in the March number of *Blackwood's Magazine*, remarks as follows:—

"In the article under notice he has not thought fit to refer to the great and far-reaching loss caused by the 19 successive forcible collections of transport animals and impressment of transport menial staff. But no one knows better than Mr. Thorburn how it will take many years to remove the traces of the loss and sufferings in various shapes. We are in a position to speak with some degree of confidence of what happened, at least, on two famous occasions—the Russian scare of 1885 and the last Tirah war. Had the writer not seen with his own eyes what he is going to describe he would have hesitated to put down in black and white such instances of *zulum*, mismanagement and confusion. * * * * *

"From Jumna to Indus the whole country was ransacked for canals (? camels), mules, ponies, bullock-carts, &c. At every *tahsil* in the camel districts, such as Jhang, Mooltan, Dera Gházi Khan, from morning to nightfall nothing was heard but the lamentations of the poor owners, the gurgling of the ungainly beasts, and loud entreaties of the impressed *sarwáns* (camel drivers) to be allowed to return home. After a long wait (from a week to a month) and much expense (*the owners having to find food and fodder at their own cost!*) a Lieutenant with a Bábu or two would come in the course of his tour on "camel-purchase duty." Those who had the means to win the interest of the Tahsíl staff and the aforesaid Babus would be allowed to go back, their camels being condemned as unfit; but the poorer owners with sorry beasts which nobody would hire, and not having the wherewithal to "please" the Sirkár's representatives, would be forced to go to the front in charge of their stock or find some one to take their place. The same was the method of collecting other transport animals and carts. The *sarwáns*, *drahis*, carters, &c., were in many cases village labourers dragged, crying and protesting, from their homes by the chaprásis, and made to enlist as Transport followers. The animals

and men thus collected were despatched by rail and road in all haste, without proper *bandobast*, to the frontier line, extending from Quetta to as far up as Dera Gházi Khan District! Such of the animals and followers for whom there was no immediate use were made to wander aimlessly about. They might have been let on hire to traders, or kept at some centre. But no, they were kept generally on the move without sufficient care, and many of the men and animals died for nothing. Not a few agents, conductors, and contractors made a good thing out of the prevailing confusion and returned home rich! For all the money (and energy) that was poured out in consequence of the scare, there scarcely remained any "assets in hand on the expiry of the *Idm*" (the native word for war preparations and arrangements). The vast majority of the animals, on return to the Punjab, were auctioned off at nominal prices—five or ten rupees per head, even less! The confusion and loss in the Tirah *Idm* were tenfold worse. In this expedition, mules, camels, ponies, pack bullocks, asses, and carts were collected in the above manner, but with far greater severity, owing to want of time. We ourselves have seen numbers of camels on trucks waiting at railway sidings for weeks and weeks, the authorities having apparently forgotten all about them. In not a few cases it appeared on enquiry that the beasts had been starving for days! At Khushálgarh the chaos was maddening—no system, organization, or supervision, as far as the long trains of animals reaching every day from all sides were concerned. Agents in charge on reporting at destination were told very often that no advice of their departure had been received! The animals and their care-takers were not looked after even in the field, and no wonder that many died. The native population have eyes to see, and they were surprised beyond words at the manner in which all arrangements connected with the vital needs of the army, *viz.*, Supply and Transport, broke down under the strain. If the enemy had been Russia instead of Pathán savages?—the more intelligent of the populace asked one another this question. However, the authorities "bungled through" all right somehow. But hundreds of the followers and animals never returned. And the majority of the returned beasts were sold off at ridiculously low prices. Let us hope that there will be no repetition of the horrid state of things described, when the necessary evil of impressment becomes sanctioned by law, and the likely animals are enumerated and registered all over the Province."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The new Amír.

7. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th March 1902, says that some of the public acts of the new Amír have been misjudged by the Anglo-Indian Press, which seems to be afraid that Habib-ullah Khán is likely to become a mere puppet in the hands of Mullahs, and neglect the administration of his country. It, however, ignores the fact that Afghánistán having been ruled by Muhammadan kings for a long time past, its inhabitants are a priest-ridden people, and that at first even Abdul Rahmán found it politic to propitiate the all-powerful Mullahs.

III.—Native States.

The Patiála plague riot.

8. The *Khálsa Bahádur* (Lahore), of the 8th (received on the 22nd March 1902), writing about the recent plague riot at Patiála, says that the disturbance was the result of premeditation on the part of the Duggars. The Editor has also,

been given to understand that, in order to save their own skins, the local Police told the rioters that they were free to do what they liked with the Doctors and the Hospital, and that if the Medical officials were for burning down the people's houses, the latter could set fire to those of the former. He then praises Sardár Gurmukh Singh's efforts to quell the rising, and alleges that, although the Sardár was attacked with brickbats, he never thought of deserting his post. He further remarks that but for the presence in the State of a wise Political Agent, like Major Dunlop-Smith, certain selfish officials would have conspired to take advantage of the riot to discredit the Council of Regency. As it is, however, it is to be hoped that in his report to Government the Major will exonerate the Council from all blame. Indeed, both the President and the Members of the said body are able, honest, and God-fearing men, and cannot bear to see the State subjects put to any inconvenience.

Suket affairs.

9. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 11), says that he is wholly opposed to the pernicious principle, in cases between a native and an Englishman, of supporting the former, even if in the wrong, and villifying the latter, although he should be in the right. He adds that there must have been some justification for Mr. Anderson, who is a high-minded and experienced officer, asking the Rája of Suket to release Titlu Rám. The correspondent then states how His Highness once took advantage of a trivial occurrence to resume the *jágír* of his uncle, Mián Prakram Singh, and how he is never at a loss for excuses to treat his other relations in the same manner. He further alleges that the Chief in question is in the habit of treating his heir-apparent in an inconsiderate manner, even on public occasions.

Native States.

10. The *Patiála Akhbár* (Patiála), of the 14th March 1902, publishes a communication from one Syad Ali Hasn, of Delhi, who passes under review the condition of Native States under the Hindu and Muhammadan rulers of India, and says that the said States enjoy their old rights, the only difference being that they are under the political supervision of one and the same Government. The writer adds that the residents of India are a loyal people and never forget the benefits conferred upon them. He then refers to the services rendered to Government by Patiála during the Sepoy Mutiny, and promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

11. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 15 of the Selections No. 6) alleges that Paras Rám, Agent of Mahant Narinjan Dás of the *Barham Buta Akhára* at Amritsar, lives in grand style and has made quite a fortune from his connection with the *jágír* attached to the *Akhára*. The Editor reiterates his suggestion that Government should cause inquiries to be made into the management of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

12. The same paper regrets that no notice has as yet been taken of the embezzlements perpetrated by Colonel Jowála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple, and his clerk, Bhola Singh. The Editor then alleges that the Colonel has appropriated to himself a horse recently offered at the temple. But, as if this was not enough, the cost of the maintenance of the animal is also charged to the Temple Funds. It may be added that the Manager and Bhola Singh keep two separate accounts of the money belonging to the Temple in order to facilitate swindling, and that large remittances received towards the Temple and Jalau Funds have been misappropriated. After expressing his readiness to prove his assertions, the Editor promises to publish a list of embezzlements perpetrated by the said worthies, and exhorts the Sikhs to get the culprits punished, and request Government to appoint a Committee to check Temple accounts yearly or half-yearly, in order to put an end to the existing state of affairs.

Golden Temple affairs.

13. The *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 14th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, after referring to the result of the prosecution by Government of Munshi Karím Bakhsh, Editor of the *Anwár-ul-Islám*, for obscene writing (*vide* paragraph 16 of the Selections No. 10), and remarking that the prosecution was in connection with the accused's commentary on a certain verse of the Qurán, says that the text itself is such that one feels ashamed to read it. He adds that such are the teachings of Muhammad, which are represented to be of a universal character and true for all ages! And when publishing a commentary on one of these makes one liable to be required to enter into a personal recognisance, acting upon them would probably lead to one being sent to jail. After remarking that in these days the Qurán cannot be acted upon in India, the correspondent observes that the Bible is the only religious book which inculcates purity and loyalty and which fears neither the sword nor the laws of Government.

The Qurán and the Bible.

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, publishes a notice issued by one Pandit Amolak Rám, Secretary, Sanátan Dharm Club, Amritsar, who dissuades the people, particularly Hindús, from using beet-root sugar imported from Europe. He alleges that the said sugar is cleansed with the bones of different animals; that native-made sugar, although not so fine, is sweeter, cheaper and more palatable; that the principles of the Hindu religion forbid the use of European-made sugar; and that the Manager and Garanthís of the Golden Temple have forbidden the use of the same. He adds that several cities in the Punjab and the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh have discontinued using beet-root sugar, and exhorts Amritsar to follow in their footsteps.

Beet-root sugar and Hindús.

15. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, publishes a communication over the signature of "L. D. M.," who, after enquiring if Pandit Gopi Náth still holds the post of Secretary to the local Sanátan Dharm Sabha, asks for information on the following points:—

Pandit Gopi Nath.

(1) Whether the Pandit ever delivers lectures at the meetings of the Sabha; and if so, is he considered a religious man?

(2) Has he had himself "purified" for having eaten beef and for his connection with Moti Ján, a prostitute? If not, why, and if so, where—at Lahore or Hardwár?

(3) Is his paper, the *Sanátan Dharm Gazette*, subscribed to by the different Sabhas, and is it looked upon as a religious journal?

(4) Is the Pandit invited to attend the (? anniversary) meetings of the Mufassil Sabhás; and if so, is this done in consideration of his past position or merely to give him a sum of Rs. 10 (!)?

(5) How does he propose to recoup himself for the money spent in connection with the case instituted by him against Lála Munshi Rám,—by making Pandit Bhím Sain deliver a series of lectures, or by some other means?

(6) What is his present occupation? Does he go out in the bazárs; and if not, why?

(7) Will he be among the journalists to be invited to the coming Delhi Darbár; and if so, will he attend as Editor of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* or that of the *Sanátan Dharm Gazette*? Or will he be present at the Darbár as a visitor only?

(8) Is he still leading his old life?

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

The Panjab Police.

16. In the course of an article headed "Some needs of the Province" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 22nd March 1902, remarks as follows:—

"*Increasing the pay of subordinate Police officers.*—No arguments and figures are needed to show that it would be a great blessing if the emoluments of the Deputy Inspectors, Sergeants and Constables could be raised proportionately all round. Even the recently recommended enhanced rate of pay is inadequate. The people are more in terror of the Police than of the badmáshes. The authorities may not believe it, but it is a fact that a Police enquiry is as much dreaded as a visit from dacoits. People actually combine to prevent news of a theft or robbery reaching the ears of the Police, for fear of the systematic extortion they know they are sure to be subjected to. It is of vital importance to attract men of ability and education to the force; but no one, unless hopeless of getting employment elsewhere, now cares to enter the Police. Is the artificial irrigation of distant deserts—when the most promising of the waste tracts have already been opened—more important and urgent than the reform of the Police? If money can be found for the former why not for the latter? The Government of India winced at the idea of an increase of 3 lakhs in Provincial Police expenditure, but it thought nothing of sanctioning a far greater outlay on the survey for a big new canal."

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

17. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* para. 25 of Selections No. 111), says that, as was to be expected, Mr. Gardener has not sent his counsellors about their business.

It may be added that the European gentleman in charge of Municipal stores (*storeke Sáhib Bahádur*), being disgusted with the present state of the local Municipality, is about to resign his appointment, and that in all probability the post will be conferred upon Ghulám Qadár, Lighting Dárogha. Indeed, if the latter presents a collection of Her late Majesty's portraits to the Secretary, he would be certain to succeed the aforesaid European gentleman. The Editor further alleges that Lála Pholu Rám has been appointed Inspector of Foods on trial for two months (*vide* paragraph 25 of the Selections No. 11), but that the post will ultimately be given to another person, who is also a pensioner, and approached Mr. Gardener through the agent of a certain *Mahant*. After remarking that of the rival candidates he who presents to the Secretary the larger number of the deceased Queen's portraits will be given the appointment, the Editor says that the officer named is also very fond of toys, and some time back asked for some of these from a candidate who lives near a toy shop and had applied for a post under the Municipality. It may be mentioned here that Dín Muhammad, Contractor, Ganda Nullah, is harassing the people and charges Rs. 20 or Rs. 25, when only Rs. 2 or Rs. 3 are due to him. Only recently he sent such an extortionate bill to a local Ráis, and on the latter taking him to task for this, excused himself by throwing the blame on his Munshi. The contractor, it may be added, has supplied himself with *khasrás* of all holdings (? along the Nullah) and charges water-rates for the same, whether irrigated from the Nullah or not, especially for those owned by the poor on whom he practises gross oppression.

The same.

18. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, says that a local newspaper charges Mr. Gardener with bribery, and alleges he has appointed a certain waterman an Assistant Octroi Inspector in consideration of a present of 200 portraits of the late Queen Empress (*vide* paragraph 26 of the Selections No. 11). This, it may be added, is a serious charge, and the Municipal Secretary should clear himself of it; for otherwise the public will be constrained to believe that he is making money (by dishonest means) in an open manner. The Editor further remarks that the Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality should be above corruption, and expresses the hope that Mr. Gardener will clear himself of the accusation preferred against him.

The coming Municipal election at Amritsar.

19. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, says that under the existing rules ten Hindu Municipal Commissioners are elected to represent the Hindu population of Amritsar on the local Municipality. It is, however, unfair to include the local Sikhs in this population; and as their number is very large, the Editor suggests that the number of the said Municipal Commissioners should be raised to twelve, of whom four, if not six, should be Sikhs. He is also of opinion that, having regard to the Christian population and institutions in the city, it appears desirable that one or two Christians should be given seats on the Municipal Committee.

The same.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, says that, as on the occasion of the last Census the local houses and shops were numbered with a red colour, most of these numbers have been washed away by rains, &c.; while side by side with others stand old numbers carved in wood. This is a

source of great inconvenience to the people, as it renders it difficult for them to know for certain the exact numbers of their houses and shops. The approaching municipal elections have accentuated the evil, and subjected voters to avoidable trouble, owing to their being unable to inform the clerks, entrusted with the work of registering the names of voters, of the numbers of their houses, &c. The Editor then calls upon the local Municipality to look into the matter and take steps to remove the evil.

Insanitary condition of certain parts of the Amritsar City.

21. A correspondent, writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, alleges that the Háthi Gate as well as the Lohgarh quarters of Amritsar are in a very insanitary condition, and that heaps of filth are always to be seen lying in different parts thereof. Besides, the drains running through them are never flushed and emit a nauseating stench. The writer, therefore, exhorts the local Municipality to look into the matter at an early date, especially as there is a fear of the plague breaking out in the city.

A nuisance.

22. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th March 1902, invites the attention of the Lahore Municipality to the unsatisfactory condition of the Telián Kúcha situated close to the local Police Lines. He alleges that a large number of cattle are always to be seen tethered in the Kúcha, and that this not only makes it filthy but also renders it impassable. He then remarks that the owners of the said animals are guilty of a breach of Municipal Rules, as their conduct amounts to encroaching upon municipal land. After stating that they have already been fined, the Editor expresses a hope that the local Municipality will take prompt steps to put an end to the complaint.

The want of public latrines in different parts of Lahore.

23. The same paper of the 21st March 1902 publishes a communication in which the writer says that the absence of public latrines in different parts of Lahore leads the people to make water wherever they can, with the result that all the main streets and adjoining lanes are always in a condition far from sanitary. He, therefore, calls upon the local Municipality to supply the want and appoint sweepers to clean and wash the latrines daily to prevent their becoming filthy.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

24. One Naráyan Dás, Puri, writing to the *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 20th March 1902, suggests that a candidate failing in one of the subjects of an examination should be re-examined in that subject only. The present practice of requiring him to undergo another examination in all the subjects is very hard on him, and the matter demands serious consideration at the hands of the Universities Commission.

The Khálsa College.

25. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, says that the meeting of the Khálsa College Council which was held in the Lahore Government College, on the 8th idem has been productive of no good results. The first

item of business before the Council was the disposal of the resignation tendered by the Secretary, Bhái Jowahar Singh. The Committee proceeded to elect a new Secretary without first accepting the resignation of the Bhái, with the result that in the midst of the ensuing confusion the latter withdrew his resignation. The Editor adds that the only change made in the *personnel* of the Council was to reduce the number of its members to 13, 3 of whom are English gentlemen, who, by the way, are likely to lead the rest by the nose. He then regrets that the Council should not have availed itself of the services of Sardár Sundar Singh of Majítha, or of Sardár Tarlochan Singh, M. A., both of whom enjoy the confidence of the Sikh public and would have facilitated the collection of funds for the College. He also expresses a hope that in future Bhái Jawahar Singh will publish periodical statements of the College accounts and thereby place himself above suspicion. The Editor does not wish to dilate on the diverse charges preferred against the Bhái, but would merely ask the latter to reflect on, and repent of, his past conduct.

(g)—Postal Matters.

Reduction of commission on money orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5.

26. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, is gratified to learn that the Secretary of State for India has sanctioned the proposal to reduce to one anna the commission on inland money orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5. The Editor feels confident that the reduction will not lead to a falling off in Government's income from the Postal Department.

The same.

27. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1902, also publishes similar remarks.

Value payable packets and money order commission.

28. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th March 1902, suggests that money order commission recovered in advance by the Post Office on a value payable packet or parcel should be refunded to the sender in the event of the addressee refusing to take delivery of the same. The Editor adds that in such cases the Post Office is entitled to recover postage alone, and exhorts other journalists to bring the matter to the notice of Government.

Muhammadans and the Punjab Railway Mail Service.

29. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th March 1902, after remarking that the only Muhammadan Assistant Superintendent in the Punjab Railway Mail Service is about to retire on pension, expresses the hope that some deserving Muhammadan will be appointed to succeed him, and that the claims of Musalmáns in the Mail Service will not be overlooked by the Postmaster-General.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Sir Mackworth Young's administration of the Punjab.

30. The *Khálsa Bahádur* (Lahore), of the 8th (received on the 22nd) March 1902, says that soon after Sir Mackworth Young (an incarnation of Major Broadfoot) had taken over charge of the office of Lieutenant-Governor, Punjab, it published a prediction to the effect that he would endeavour to place Christians at the head

of all other sections of His Majesty's subjects in the Province. The honours conferred on Kanwar Sir Harnám Singh during the last five years thoroughly justify this prediction, although be it said to the credit of the Kanwar that he is ever ready to serve his country. The Editor then refers to Sir Mackworth Young's treatment of the Sikhs, and enquires if the misdeeds of Sardár Gurdiál Singh were a sufficient reason for the entire Khálsa community being condemned. Indeed, considering the fact that the British Government took the Punjab from the Sikhs, nay, was invited by them to assume possession of the same, it appears inexplicable that not a single high appointment in the Civil Service of the Province should be held by a Sikh. It is not to be believed that of the Sikh gentlemen whom Government has kindly admitted into the said service, not one was sufficiently capable to serve in place of Gurdiál Singh. The Editor knows of several Sikh officers quite competent to do so, but he cannot mention their names lest this should cost them even their present positions.

He then goes on to say that his second prediction was that Sir Mackworth Young would range himself against Native States. And this was exactly the attitude adopted by the retiring Lieutenant-Governor towards Punjab Chiefs, so much so that he managed to "catch" even the poor ruler of Nábha, who always did his utmost to please him. Besides, was it not owing to him that the late Mahárája of Patiála died a premature death and that the treaties (concluded between Government and the feudatory States in the Province) were interfered with? His first target was Jínd, the founder of which State rendered unequalled services to the English in the past. He next directed all his ability, learning and medical knowledge (*sic*!) against the Patiála State. The Editor then remarks that the British Government is founded on truth and sympathy (with its subjects), and that Captain Cunningham's writings prove that Englishmen worthy the name would stand by justice even in opposition to their own nation. He adds that if the Sikhs have been subjected to high-handedness and oppression during the past five years, Providence has also placed over their heads a person like Sir (Charles) Rivaz, who will appreciate their worth. Indeed, his very name signifies that he will "revise" and do justice; while the lives of some of his near and highly placed relations were saved by the Sikhs at the Bailey Guard, Lucknow (? in 1857). In conclusion, the Editor praises Sir Mackworth Young for taking interest in the Khálsa College, albeit at the eleventh hour, and prays that God may grant him happiness.

The plague.

31. A correspondent of the *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 14th March 1902, says that there can be no doubt that the plague rules as originally framed were of a rigorous character. Nevertheless, as long as they were in force the operations of the epidemic were kept within a limited area. The removal of their rigour, however, has led to an increase of the disease, and the people are fast falling victims to it. The writer adds that the oppression practised on the residents of infected places was the result, not of the rigour of the plague rules, but of the selfishness of medical and police officials on plague duty, who looted, and took away the honor of the people. Government ought, therefore, to have remedied this evil and not left

its subjects to themselves. He then suggests that the old plague rules should be revived and the residents of infected localities prohibited from visiting places immune from the epidemic.

The same.

32. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, also publishes similar remarks and says that the frequent appearance of pestilence among natives is due to their neglecting exercise, breathing impure air and giving a free rein to their passions. The Editor then exhorts his countrymen to pay more regard to sanitation and realize the value of the addage "Prevention is better than cure."

The same.

33. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1902 :—

"In another column appears a letter from the Vice-President of the Ferozepore Municipal Board, suggesting the enforcement of the precautionary measures to prevent plague, which were in force under the rules concerning the prevention of the disease which have now been superseded. He insists that at least in Ferozepore City the Municipality be allowed to prevent outsiders coming in from plague-stricken areas without being subjected to medical examination or quarantine. The suggestion, so far as it concerns medical inspection of new-comers at Ferozepore, is not only reasonable with regard to that locality, but may be extended with advantage to other areas. But the first part of the suggestion requires very serious consideration. It is an undoubted fact that the relaxation in the plague rules gave very general satisfaction, when it was announced, and though the enormous spread of the plague during the last few months has filled some with regret why the stringency of the rules was relaxed, yet the opinion of the majority of the people is still on the side of the new policy of Government and does not favour a reversion to the old stringency."

The same.

34. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 25th March 1902, writing about the increase of the bubonic plague in the Punjab, remarks as follows :—

"Who knows that the districts believed to be free are really free? There is no expert agency to detect, report and deal with cases in the mofussil. In the city of Lahore itself there are strong reasons to suspect concealed cases, in spite of all the vigilance of the authorities. The following figures compiled by Captain Peck, our Health Officer, are surely calculated to cause uneasiness :—

1901. *Total deaths.*		1902. *Total deaths*	
February 3rd to 9th	93	February 2nd to 8th	139
„ 10th to 16th	110	„ 9th to 15th	148
„ 17th to 23rd	77	„ 16th to 22nd	149
„ 24th to 2nd March	94	„ 23rd to 1st March	156
March 3rd to 9th	77	March 2nd to 8th	134

"The increase in the total number of deaths this year, as compared with the last, is really startling. We trust the members of the Plague Committee and other educated townsmen will keep their eyes and ears open and at once report any suspicious case coming to their notice. All the papers have been unanimously praying for the imposition of some check on intercourse between uninfected and infected towns. Had there been some such check the disease would not have been imported into Lahore from Ludhiána, Jammu, Siálkot, &c. The lowering of temperature within the last few days is a bad sign, and has made people, who were counting on the escape of Lahore this year owing to the rapid approach of hot weather, lose their last shreds of hope. We have repeatedly said and say so again that the people are *not* against quarantine, but the evils which accompanied—which official enquiries have recently disclosed—quarantine. Compulsory removal of patients and compulsory search by the mercenary staff, these are the things the people were and are still opposed to. The *sulum* that was perpetrated by menials and subordinates in the name of plague measures would make one's hairs stand on end. Let the *sulum* be removed and the measures revived. Otherwise the whole country would be desolated."

The same.

35. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that at first certain plague officials in the Jullundur District looted the people and lined their own pockets with gold. Complaints being made to the authorities against the said officials, Government became angry and left the people to themselves. This had no doubt the effect of rescuing the residents of infected places from the clutches of dishonest public servants, but how is the plague to be stamped out? The latter object, adds the correspondent, is possible of attainmen t only if men pray to God and give up their sinful practises.

The coming Delhi Darbár.

36. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 20th March 1902:—

"It is stated that in the coming Budget for the year 1902-03 a sum of Rs. 5,25,000 has been provided for the expenses of sending and bringing back the Indian Contingent for the Coronation. A further sum of Rs. 8,50,000 is said to have been provided in the military Budget estimate for the Coronation Darbár to be held at Delhi, in addition to what has been provided for the Darbár in the Public Works and other Civil Departments. India is a loyal country and will not grudge these expenses on the auspicious occasion of the Coronation of her new Emperor, though according to Oriental ideas the expenses of the Contingent should have been borne by England, to which country they are going as guests. Indians also expect, according to the traditions of their country, a shower of favours, in the shape of privileges, concessions, reliefs, and charities, as Coronation gifts. Lord Curzon is a Viceroy who prides himself on his Imperial instincts, and he has undertaken the raising of a National Memorial to the deceased Empress on highly Imperial lines. It remains to be seen how far His Excellency's ideas of Imperialism will suggest things to be given to the people instead of being taken from them. In the direction of *giving* European imperialistic ideas have so far fallen very much short of the Oriental.

It is confidently hoped in many quarters that the original mind of Lord Curzon may suggest a departure in this respect. Without some gain to the people, in one shape or another, the pomp and splendour of the Coronation will be a superficial thing lacking in the essential element of that demonstration of royal love which people in the East look for as a recognition of their loyalty."

37. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiána), of the 19th March 1902, writing on the same subject, remarks that the pre-British rulers of India used to hold magnificant Darbárs, which greatly impressed the populace. Indeed, those who had the good fortune of witnessing an Imperial procession or joining a Public Darbár remembered it to the end of their lives. The Editor then takes exception to the condemnation by European Historians of such Darbárs on the ground that the same entailed an enormous waste of money, and says that it was the extravagance of the rich which gave India its matchless weavers, sculptors and architects, and encouraged the various branches of trade in the country. In other words, the money spent by the rich returned to the people through various channels. The Editor does not, therefore, agree with those who grudge the expenditure to be incurred in connection with the coming Imperial Assemblage, and remarks that the money spent will go into the pockets of Railway Companies, labourers, merchants and artisans.

The same.

33. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th March 1902, says that it has been decided to hold the Darbár on the 1st of January, presumably because the Christian year opens with that day and Christ's birthday is also observed on it (*sic*). This arrangement would also give the Native Chiefs, invited to be present at the King-Emperor's Coronation in London, sufficient time for rest after their trip to Europe, as well as for making preparations to attend the Darbár. Besides, an earlier date would not enable British merchants, thousands of whom are likely to visit Delhi on the occasion in question, to undertake a journey to India. As regards the objection that the said date is likely to clash with that of 'Id-ul-Fitr, nothing definite can be said on the point. But even if the dates do coincide, there can be no harm in this. The Editor then alleges that the sum of 20 lakhs, which according to the *Pioneer* will be sanctioned to defray the expenses connected with the Darbár, is far too small, considering that the dais required on the occasion has alone been estimated to cost about 7 lakhs of rupees, not to speak of the money required for the entertainment of Native Princes, &c. He adds that it has also been decided to invite selected Journalists to the coming Assemblage.

The same.

39. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th March 1902, suggests that as the date fixed for the Delhi Darbár coincides with that of the 'Id-ul-Fitr, the same should be changed to the 2nd of January. Should this be impracticable, the Darbár should be held at 3 P.M. after the 'Id prayers have been said.

40. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 13th March 1902, suggests that as a large number of spectators and merchants will flock to Delhi on the occasion of the Imperial Assemblage, passengers to that city between the 15th December 1902 and 15th January 1903 should be allowed to travel by train on payment of half fares.

The same.

41. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1902, publishes the following :—

Rupees coined in 1840.

"The orders of the Government of India issued in July last to currency offices and public treasuries to receive these rupees (coined in 1840) have either not been known to the public, or if known, they are not taking advantage of the opportunity to change the old rupees for new ones. The Railway Booking Offices sometimes object to receiving these rupees, to the great inconvenience of Railway passengers. If the Government of India really desire to stop the circulation of these rupees, it would be well advised to issue strict orders that such rupees be made over to the nearest Government treasury and changed for new ones. A period of limitation may be prescribed in this behalf, sufficiently long to allow facility of exchange to the owners of old coins, and it may be ruled that beyond that time all right to utter the 1840 rupee will be barred, and it will cease to be a legal tender. Thus systematic uniformity will be secured in the Indian coinage which will be decidedly preferable to the existing state of things."

42. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1902, says that indiscriminate importation and use of European-made cloths has driven indigenous articles from the market and brought about the ruin of native weavers. The Editor then remarks that if the people of India were to agree to abstain from using cloths manufactured in foreign lands they would lay their country under a deep debt of gratitude. It may be added that this conduct on their part would afford employment to native weavers, stop the drain of wealth from the country and stimulate indigenous arts and industries. Again, Indian-made cloths are certain to be sold at lower prices than their European rivals, while they may be depended upon to last much longer. The altered state of things would also put an end to unnecessary purchases of cloth which tempting samples imported from Europe induce one to make. After remarking that cloth of every description likely to be required by a gentleman is manufactured in India, the Editor observes that all patriotic natives should give up the use of European-made cloth, except in cases of extreme necessity. He then calls upon his readers to give his suggestion careful consideration, those agreeing with him and taking the necessary pledge communicating their names to him. These names he intends publishing in the *Paisa Akhbár* weekly, with the object of inducing others to join the movement. He also suggests that the subscribers to his paper should let him know where native-made cloths of a superior quality are manufactured, so that he may make the information public.

Natives and European-made cloths.

43. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th March 1902, reports that Kázi Siráj-ud-dín Ahmad, Barrister-at-Law, returned to Ráwalpindi on the 12th idem, and was received at the Railway Station by the members of the local Anjuman-i-Islámia and *elite* of the City and the Cantonment. The same day Shekh Fazl Iláhi, President of the Anjuman, gave a tea-party in his honour and presented to him an address on behalf of the said Society. After this a procession was formed to conduct the Maulvi to his residence in the city, where poems were recited expressing joy at his return from England. The Maulvi in a short and befitting speech thanked the audience and prayed to God to enable him to fulfil the expectations formed of him.

Kázi Siráj-ud-dín Ahmad's return to Ráwalpindi.

[Confidential]

[Vol. XIV.] [No. 14.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 5th April 1902.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST MARCH 1902.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	Tri-weekly.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Múl Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	Bi-weekly.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashíd ...	1,050 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Naráin Dás ...	300 „
	Weekly.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samáj, Anárkali ...	350 copies.
5	Khálsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 „
	URDU.			
	Daily.			
6	Akhbár-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahái ...	Between 2,000 & 3,000 opies.
7	Rozána Delhi Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Nisár Ali ...	...
8	Victoria Paper ...	Siálkot ...	Gián Chand ...	600 copies.
	Weekly.			
9	Ahlúwália Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rái ...	600 copies.
10	Alhakam ...	Kádián, Gurdáspur District.	Yakúb Ali ...	300 „
11	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Rám ...	200 „
12	Chaudhwín Sadi ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Saráj-ud-dín Ahmad ...	1,200 „
13	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiána ...	Ghulám Mohai-ud-dín ...	1,200 „
14	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	950 „
15	Dost i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Rám Labháya ...	300 „

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST MARCH 1902—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
16	Gham Khár-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Dáta Kishen ...	330 copies.
17	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	500 "
18	Hamdard-i-Khálsa ...	Amritsar ...	Suchet Singh ...	500 "
19	Kapurthala Akhbár ...	Kapurthala ...	Prág Naráin ...	125 "
20	Khair Kháh-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mír Hassan ...	100 "
21	Khair Kháh-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbár.	Do. ...	Maha Naráin ...	50 "
22	Koh-i-Núr ...	Lahore ...	Iláhi Bakhsh ...	116 "
23	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahmán ...	110 "
24	Núr Afshán ...	Ludhiána ...	M. Wylie ...	450 "
25	Paisa Akhbár ...	Lahore ...	Mahbúb 'Alam ...	13,000 "
26	Patiála Akhbár ...	Patiála ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	500 "
27	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	650 "
28	Punjab Organ ...	Siálkot ...	Brij Lál ...	300 "
29	Punjab Samáchár ...	Lahore ...	Pohlo Mal ...	3,500 "
30	Rafíq-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	1,000 "
31	Rafi-ul-Akhbár ...	Siálkot ...	Muhammad Shafi Beg ...	...
32	Sada-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Dín Muhammad ...	300 copies.
33	Sádiq-ul-Akhbár ...	Baháwalpur ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddús ...	370 "
34	Sat Dharm Parchárik ...	Jullundur City ...	Munshi Rám ...	800 "
35	Shamím i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Shiv Naráyan ...	175 "
36	Siálkot Paper ...	Siálkot ...	Todar Mal ...	650 "
37	Singh Sabhá Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	200 "

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST MARCH 1903—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
38	Siráj-ul-Akhbár ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakír Muhammad	475 copies.
39	Súraj ...	Ambala ...	Súraj Bal ...	...
40	Táhzib-i-Niswán ...	Lahore ...	Sayad Mumtáz Ali ...	...
41	Táj-ul-Akhbár ...	Ráwalpindi ...	Jíwa Rám ...	300 copies.
42	Vakíl ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulám Ahmad, Mukhtár	1,100 „
43	Vakíl-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khán ...	700 „
44	Wafádár ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-dín ...	700 „
45	Watan ...	Do. ...	Karm Bakhsh ...	...
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
46	Ashraf-ul-Akhbár ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Mirza Khán	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
47	Sanátan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Gopi Náth ...	1,200 copies.
48	Anwár-ul-Islám ...	Siálkot ...	Karím Bakhsh ...	1,200 „
	MONTHLY.			
49	Aror Bans Parkásh ...	Lahore ...	Sálig Rám ...	50 copies.
50	Arya Musáfir Magazine ...	Jullundur ...	Munshi Rám ...	700 „
51	Bhárat Partáp ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishamber Dayál, Sharma	500 „
52	Musíd-i-'Am Gazette ...	Siálkot ...	Karím Bakhsh ...	...
53	Saría Sabha Journal ...	Hoshiárpur ...	Ganesh Dás and Dev Ráj	250 copies.
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
54	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lál Man ...	229 copies.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 14.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 5th April 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Boer War.

1. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 24th March 1902, says that one of the combatants, the English or the Boer, must be to blame for the prolonged war in South Africa. Had one of the parties abstained from invading the rights of the other, the enormous expenditure of blood and money which the war has entailed would have been spared. As it is, no one can gainsay that the party which exceeded its rights is responsible for the woe and misery wrought by the struggle. The Editor then remarks that had both the English and the Boers been unselfish and believers in the Vedic religion, neither of them would have encroached upon the rights of the other, for this is what the said faith teaches.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1902, is gratified to learn that a sum of Rs. 1,500 has been collected at Mouza Jalálabad, Ferozepore District, for the proposed Hedjáz Railway through the efforts of Nawáb Ghulám Ahmad Khan, a Raís of Mamdot. The Editor then regrets that the Muhammadans of Amritsar, Lahore and Delhi should have displayed so little interest in the work, and observes that they have failed to realize the need of giving charities for objects more in keeping with the requirements of the times. This, he adds, is especially true of his co-religionists in Delhi, who confine their attention to their immediate surroundings and seem loth to give up their antiquated notions on the subject of charities.

3. The same paper, of the 24th and 28th March 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...		2040	1	4
1. Received through Bábu Manzúr Ahmad, Sayad Muhammad Shah Ahmad and Ghulám Rasúl, of Nushki ...		142	0	0
2. Sayad Salámat Ali, tutor to the son of the Raís of Bhadaur, Patiála State ...		1	0	0
3. Received through Dr. Allah Bakhsh, of Sakardo ...		10	9	0
4. Received through Abu Said Khán, of Sahsrám ...		68	4	0
5. Munshi Abdul Azíz, a servant of Sayad Mahmúd Badshah, of Hasan Abdál ...		5	0	0
6. Received through Munshi Muhammad Ali, of Ferozepore Cantonment, as per detail below:—				
	Rs. A. P.			
(a) Kotwál Abdul Majíd	20 0 0			
(b) Mír Munshi Sayad Jáfar ...	10 0 0			
(c) Sheikh Muhammad and Munshi Muhammad Alí ...	20 0 0			
		50	0	0
7. Sheikh Umar Bakhsh, Khánsama, Amritsar	Value of the hides of animals sacrificed on the last 'Id day.	2	0	0
8. Hakím Ghulám Rasúl, of Amritsar		1	2	6
9. Názir Muhammad Ismail, of Amritsar		2	5	6
10. An anonymous contributor from Amritsar		1	8	0
11. Maulvi Muhammad Abdul Haq, of Amritsar		2	4	0
12. Háfiz Ghulám Rasúl, of Amritsar		0	8	0
13. Sheikh Ghulám Muhammad, Editor, *Vakil* (value of hides) ...		2	15	0
14. Háfiz Muhammad Abdúr Rahím, Vakíl, Aligarh (value of hides)		3	6	0
15. Received through Mistri Imám-ud-din of Sujánpur, Gurdáspur District		5	2	0
Total ...		8,338	1	4

4. The *Tahsíl-i-Niswán* (Lahore), of the 29th March 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	336	14	0
1. Názir Husain, through Maulvi Abdul Majid, Barrister-at-Law ...	...	2	0	0
2. Mother of Malik Umar Hayát Khán ...		100	0	0
3. Wife of the Malik ...	...	30	0	0
4. A Bághbánpur lady ...	...	10	0	0
5. Wife of Dr. Fíroz-ud-dín ...	...	5	0	0
6. A widow	...	5	0	0
7. A lady	...	30	0	0
8. Contributions from some girls	...	3	0	0
9. Miscellaneous	...	17	0	0
Total	...	538	14	0

(b)—Home.

Army reform in India.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1902, publishes the following :—

"'India' draws attention to Sir Henry Fowler's declaration that every member of the House of Commons is a member for India in connection with Mr Brodrick's Army Reform Scheme, and expects that the new proposals, so far as they relate to India, will be fought line by line and rejected by an indignant Parliament. We pointed out a few days ago that the cost of the proposed changes in terms of service and rates of pay, by which of course only British soldiers are to benefit, would be £1,048,000 a year to Great Britain and £786,000 a year to India; in other words, for every additional £5 that the United Kingdom will have to spend India will be required to spend £4, although there is not the slighest chance of the latter benefiting by the Imperial policy in whose interests the burden is sought to be imposed. India already maintains as an Imperial Reserve a part of the British garrison whose superfluity has been demonstrated by the ease with which it could be spared for Imperial purposes in South Africa and China, and Mr. Brodrick's hint that the Indian Army might require to be increased was preposterous. 'I do not see,' said Mr. Brodrick in explaining the Estimates, 'how we can make with regard to any of our Colonies, or with regard to India, any considerable reduction of the army. India will want more troops rather than less. She requires more artillery, and in the case of an extra expedition she might require assistance from home.' Will not there rise anybody in the House to protest against these suggestions, and to point out that India's power to bear Military expenditure has been taxed to the utmost? The Government of India has yet to be heard in the matter, though our ill-informed Secretary of State has already in a manner committed that Government by undertaking that 'India will bear half the cost of the bounties to extended

service men.' The manner in which the question will be discussed and settled in the House will be an index how far considerations of justice to India will have influence in the counsels of Parliament in the near future."

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

6. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the charge preferred against the Commissioner of Jullundur by the Rája of Suket in connection with the release of Titlu Rám is wholly unworthy of notice, seeing that the first-named gentleman had no personal interest in the prisoner. There is also no truth in the assertion that Mr. Anderson has been endeavouring to lower the Rája's prestige, or inflame His Highness' subjects against him. The correspondent then reproduces a letter purporting to have been addressed to Wazír Arjanún by Dusht Nikandan Sain previous to his investiture with ruling powers. In this letter the Rája urges the Wazír to raise an agitation on his behalf and get full powers of Government conferred upon him. He promises to do for Arjanún all in his power in return for this, swearing by the cow to keep his word, and asking the latter not to stick at lying or dishonesty in the attainment of the end in view. As to how this promise was fulfilled, the correspondent will merely state that Arjanún has been an exile from Suket for the last 18 years He further remarks that it is wrong to say that the Commissioner has ever threatened to get the Rája deposed. He also advises Government not to listen to His Highness' request regarding the removal of Suket from the supervision of the Commissioner of Jullundur, and alleges that the State subjects are wholly opposed to the proposal. He then promises to reveal later on how a few days back certain persons being under the rule of Dusht Nikandan Sain had had their buttocks scalded and what oppression is being practised in Suket.

The same.

7. A correspondent writing to the same paper, of the 1st April 1902, says that the letters published in the *Punjab Samáchár* anent the relations between the Rája of Suket and the Commissioner of Jullundur seem to have emanated from the pen of the former. He then alleges that one Ganda Mal, B.A., formerly a tutor to the Tika of Suket, had to throw up his appointment owing to his being unable to comply with the Rája's wishes to forge a document prejudicial to his pupil. Another tutor, Professor Jagtana Pershád, was turned out of the State and made to carry his luggage on his own head. It may be added that the *Samáchár* is wrong in stating that the Rája, being an educated man and fond of learning, could not have neglected the education of his heir-apparent. Indeed, if this were so, the Tika would not have applied (to whom the writer does not state) to be sent to the Aitchison College at Lahore.

Kapurthala affairs.

8. A correspondent of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th March 1902, writing about the prevalence of the bubonic plague in the Kapurthala State, alleges that it is complained that female medical examiners at certain places are of loose character and detain way-farers of their sex for nothing. He is of opinion that the work should be entrusted to well-behaved women alone.

9. The *Refiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 22nd March 1902, after remarking that the public is eager to know what Lord Curzon's coming visit to Hyderabad leads to, says that an agitation seems to have been set on foot against Mr. Walker, Financial Adviser to the Nizám's Government. The news, he adds, has come as a surprise to the Punjábís, for the said gentleman is regarded as one of the most popular and ablest Anglo-Indian Punjab official. At any rate, it is to be hoped that his visit to Hyderabad will enable the Viceroy to form an opinion on the subject.

Hyderabad affairs.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd March 1902, says that the next session of the Muhammadan Educational Conference which is proposed to be held at Delhi on the occasion of the coming Proclamation Darbár is certain to prove a great success. It is, however, to be feared that the estimated expenditure will not answer the purpose, and that the local Committee is likely to suffer loss. Again, so far, accommodation has been secured for 200 or 250 delegates only, although the Committee will have to entertain from 1,000 to 1,500 guests. The Editor adds that the speakers at the Conference should refrain from uttering words likely to injure the religious susceptibilities of the Musalmáns of Delhi—a precaution which was not adopted when that body met at Delhi during the lifetime of the late Sir Saiyyid Ahmad Khán. He then suggests that the Nudwat-ul-Ulema should also hold its next meeting at Delhi on the occasion referred to above. Should the suggestion be favourably considered by the Secretary of the Nudwa, the Editor and the members of the local Muhammadan Club will undertake to make the necessary arrangements He is also of opinion that if the College started by the said Association at Lucknow were located in Delhi, it would be to the advantage of both the institution and the Musalmán community. In conclusion, he remarks that it is believed that the annual meetings of the different Hindu societies will also be held at Delhi simultaneously with the Imperial Assemblage.

The coming Delhi Darbár and the annual meetings of different Native societies.

11. A correspondent writing to the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1902, praises the Editor for his efforts to expose the misdoings of *Jágirdár* Mahants, and says that the exposure is calculated to prove beneficial to both Government and the people. He then alleges that the Mahants in question are a set of debauchees, who not only ruin poor women residing in their neighbourhood, but also seduce female members of respectable families. Indeed, it is no exaggeration to say that by granting these worthies *jágirs* Government has caused them to degenerate into so many stallions. The writer also endorses the Editor's remarks as regards Paras Rám, general agent to Mahant Narinjan Dás (*vide* paragraph 11 of the Selections No. 13), and says that the Mahant is a mere puppet in the hands of the agent. He then requests Government to appoint a Commission to enquire into the conduct of such Mahants as are in enjoyment of *jágirs*.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

12. A correspondent writing to the same paper, of the 1st April 1902, remarks that Mahant Narinjan Dás of the Braham Buta Akhára, Amritsar, is thoroughly incompetent to manage his *jágír*, and is a mere puppet in the hands of his agent, Páras Rám. The last-named person, however, has been squandering the income from the *jágír* in objectionable pursuits. He leads an immoral life and owns several houses, in all of which are to be seen obscene pictures. After advising the Mahant to send Paras Rám about his business, the writer expresses a hope that the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar will make inquiries into the matter.

The same.

13. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that Mahant Sant Dás of a certain Gurdwára in the Chohla village, Tarn Táran Tahsíl, Amritsar District, is a debauchee and spends in drinking and dissipation all the income from the *jágír* granted by Government for the maintenance of the Gurdwára. His immoral practices, adds the writer, are such that the residents of the village do not allow him to live in their midst. He has, therefore, been living in Amritsar for a long time past and owns a house in the Rámgarhyán Katra, where he indulges in licentiousness. Originally he had a prostitute for his paramour, but after her death he took another woman under his protection. After stating that the said *jágír* is rumoured to have been mortgaged to a certain banker, the writer requests the Government to inquire into the Mahant's conduct through the Tahsildár of Tarn Táran. He adds that in case Sant Dás is found guilty, his *jágír* should be resumed or taken from his charge.

Colonel Jowála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple.

14. The same paper, of the 24th March 1902, alleges that it appears that the grant of the 20 squares of land owned by Colonel Jowála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple, in the Chenab Colony, was originally made by Government for the support of the free kitchen maintained in connection with the Temple, but that the Colonel got the same entered in the mutation register in his own name.

Hindús and Native converts to Christianity.

15. The *Sat Dharm Parchárik* (Jullundur), of the 24th March 1902, says that the Hindús are wrong in deriving comfort from the fact that persons of higher castes have ceased to fall a prey to Christians, and that the poor Missionary has now to baptise sweepers and Chamárs into the Church in order to lend some importance to his annual reports. They are, however, labouring under a mistake, and should remember that Christianity levels the distinction made by Hindúism between a Brahman and a Chamár. A Brahman or Chamár convert to the Christian religion ceases to be either, and is metamorphosed into a coated and pantalooned individual, who can touch, and sit on the same carpet with, persons of their faiths and drag every one out of a railway carriage. Again, he becomes a member of a community which far outnumbers Hindús and, unlike them, counts several crowned heads in its ranks. Moreover, Christians are not only the superiors of Hindús in point of intellect, but also own the allegiance of the latter. The followers of Hindúism should, therefore, shake off their lethargy and wake to the stern reality that thousands

of their numbers are leaving them annually and are being formed into a separate community to wage war against them. The Editor then remarks that the Hindús should devise means, not only to remedy this evil, but also to convert Christians to the Vedic religion.

Holi obscenities.

16. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1902:—

"It is a blood curdling spectacle, the passing of a Holi procession through the bazár, with all its abominable accompaniments, and a vast concourse of men, women and children lining the streets, filling the windows and housetops, and enjoying (yes, *enjoying*) every disgusting detail of the show! The ribald jokes, lewd gestures, and filthy representations ought to make the flesh of men and women of the least sense of decency creep. But apparently the Holi so destroys the feeling of propriety in a large section of the community that the most atrociously obscene sights and sounds are regarded as a matter of course during the days of the Saturnalia. The reformers who would do away with the Holi altogether are, in our humble opinion, as mistaken as those misguided folk who believed that drink and debauchery are sanctioned by religion on the occasion of the festival. The Holi might be freed from many of its evils if the various caste associations would combine and resolve to set the law in motion against the organisers and makers of obscene displays, or punish them with exclusion from the *birádderi*. The example of the Purity Association, whose *Pavitra Holi* meetings save great numbers of people from the contaminating effects of the carnival, might be followed by the orthodox organisations. If sermons, speeches, parables and temperance songs, which constitute the programme of the *Pavitra Holi* are not lively enough for them, let them have whatever would be more enjoyable to them. But no efforts should be spared by all true Hindús and sympathisers of the Hindu people to suppress the things that convert our city into a pandemonium in the Holi days. Holi, as it is now generally observed, is as fearful a plague, morally, as the pestilence which is decimating our population."

The Sikhs and beet-root sugar.

17. The *Sat Dharm Parchárik* (Jullundur), of the 21st March 1902, says that it is an open secret that the Sikhs are very fond of meat, and that this dirty article they call "the best of foods." Again, they consider it religious on their part to keep a bone of the pig in their heir and term the same "the purifier." The public will, therefore, be surprised to learn that they have adopted a resolution forbidding the offering at the Golden Temple of *Karah* made of beet-root (English-made) sugar, on the ground that this sugar is cleansed with bones. This conduct on their part appears the more inexplicable when one takes into consideration the fact that the Sikhs do not hesitate to use medicines imported from Europe and containing animal fat or bones as one of their ingredients. Besides, to be consistent, they should also put under ban sweets, &c., prepared from the sugar in question. The Editor adds that his remarks should not be taken to imply that he is in favour of the use of European-made sugar. Nay, if the article is really an objectionable preparation, he would not hesitate to forbid its use. All that he wishes to convey is that

if they have adopted the above resolution in good faith and on principle, they should tackle certain other questions in the same spirit. For instance, it should be their duty to let all their co-religionists know that it is as unlawful to eat *Jhatka* as to take *Halál* meat.

Hindús and imported sugar.

18. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1902, after publishing the substance of a notice recently issued by Pandit Amolak Rám, Secretary of the Sanátan Dharm Club, Amritsar (*vide* paragraph 14 of the Selections No. 13), says that the gist of the document is that the use of beet-root sugar militates against the Hindu religion. The Editor is, however, of opinion that the agitation should be carried on, not by religious societies, but by trading firms, for the former can merely publish their views on the subject and can in no way stop the import of the sugar. Besides, animal fat and bones form part of several other foreign made articles used by Hindús, and it is to be feared that, according to the Pandit, Hinduism has already ceased to exist. After remarking that the present agitation against the use of beet-root sugar is ill-advised, the Editor observes that the object in view can be attained by competition alone. He suggests that experienced and well-to-do men of business should unite to manufacture in India sugar which should be as refined and cheap as its foreign rival.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad.

19. The *Hákam* (Kádián), of the 17th (received on the 25th) March 1902, publishes the report of a discourse recently delivered at Kádián by one Maulvi Abdul Karim. After lamenting the absence of true faith among Muhammadans, the Maulvi remarked that the object of his discourse was to inform the audience that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, "the promised Messiah," had been sent to supply the above want. The lecturer then swore by God that the Mirza was a messenger from on high; that his advent was like the appearance of a rain cloud during a season of drought; and that only those could appreciate his work who were night and day with him. Abdul Karim further remarked that the plague was a punishment from God for the impiety and sinfulness of men, and that the "Prophet of Kádián" had been sent to enlighten his fellow-men on the point and make them give up their sinful practices.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

A judicial complaint.

20. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th March 1902, (received on the 1st April), learns from a correspondent that the petition writers at Zafarwál have banded together and demand remuneration for their labours at higher rates than those which had hitherto been in vogue. This, he alleges, is proving a source of considerable hardship to the local litigating public. He adds that when receiving new plaints the *Alhkars* of the local Munsif's Court also subject litigants to inconvenience, and that the two causes combined lead not a few *Saiáhirs* to institute their cases in the courts at Siálkot. He calls upon the District Judge of Siálkot to make necessary inquiries, and take steps to put an end to the complaints, should they turn out to be well founded.

21. A correspondent writing to the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1902, remarks that Rái Rám Náth, Judge, Small Cause Court, Amritsar, has many relations in that city, and that he should have been transferred to some other place long ago, especially as his relations are apt to take undue advantage of his official position. Besides, it is complained that the Rái does not treat litigants in a gentlemanly manner.

A complaint against Rái Rám Náth, Judge, Small Cause Court, Amritsar.

22. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, suggests that, like other public servants, the *Amla* of Cantonment Courts should also be transferred from time to time, and remarks that in case the suggestion is adopted, a beginning should be made with the subordinate officials of the Court of the Cantonment Magistrate of Meean Meer.

A suggestion regarding periodical transfers among the *Amla* of Cantonment Courts.

(b)—Police.

23. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, remarks that a local correspondent writes to say that of late certain *badmáshes* at Siálkot have been looting wayfarers and travellers. These worthies infest the road between the city and the local railway station, and manage, by hook or by crook, to ease unwary passengers of their valuables. After remarking that a perusal of the communication is calculated to send a shiver through ones frame, the Editor invites the attention of the local Police to the matter.

Lawlessness in Siálkot.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

24. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1902, alleges that Mr. Gardener is having everything his own way in connection with the Amritsar Municipality; that every post under the Municipality is being sold to the highest bidder; that so far not a single person has been engaged by the said officer without receiving a present from the former; and that those refusing to pay *nazránds* are grossly ill-treated. It may be added that candidates even for temporary appointments have to give presents (? to the Secretary), and that some time back a certain person had to pay £2 to secure such a post. As to what Mr. Gardener accepted from Abdul Azíz, everybody in the city knows of it. After repeating the charges preferred by him against the Secretary from time to time, the Editor calls upon the leading residents of Amritsar to found a "Rate-payers' Association," as the only way of bringing Municipal abuses to the notice of Government.

Complaint against the Secretary of the Amritsar Municipality.

25. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, takes exception to the imposition of a house-tax at Meean Meer, and says that it is against the rules to levy both octroi and house taxes at one and the same place. Should it, however, be impracticable to repeal the tax, the Editor would suggest the reduction of the present rate to 2 per cent. of the rental of a house.

Imposition of a house-tax in Meean Meer.

(d)—Education.

The Gurukul.

26. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 29th March 1902, learns from a correspondent that the Gurukul was opened at Mauza Kángri, which is four kós from Hardwár, on the 22nd idem. In the evening the Aryás organized a procession and took the same to Mauza Kamkhar. The ignorant residents of this village pelted the party which, however, took no notice of their conduct. Munshi Amín Singh, who has given 1,100 bigahs of land for the institution, attended the gathering on the 24th. At the same meeting Lála Bhagat Rám, Pleader, Gujránwála, contributed Rs. 1,500 towards the Gurukul Fund. Altogether Rs. 3,000, excluding donations of ornaments and gifts of clothes for the students, were collected on the occasion. Of this amount Rs. 2,000 were subscribed by the widow of the late Pandit Lekh Rám and will be spent on the education of one of the students. It may be added that about 500 delegates from the muffasil witnessed the opening ceremony, and that nearly sixty boys have joined the Gurukul.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The land-revenue assessment.

27. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1902, says that certain officers are of opinion that agricultural lands in India are lightly assessed and that the demand should be enhanced in order to enable Government to make the necessary additions to the Indian Army. Anglo-Indian newspapers are also writing in the same strain, while the *Civil and Military Gazette* seems to have gone mad over the matter. The Editor, however, would request Government to do nothing in a hurry, and endeavours to show that of late years the income from land has considerably dwindled. He promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Grievances of 1st and 2nd class native passengers.

28. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th March 1902, after referring to the report regarding the ill-treatment of a 2nd class Hindu lady passenger by a European or Eurasian guard at the Midnanáth (?) Station on the East Indian Railway, says that as a general rule the Railway authorities do not come to know of such occurrences, and that it is this which has made certain subordinate Railway officials so insolent. The Editor then suggests that the best way to put an end to incidents like the one under reference is to attach to every train 1st and 2nd class carriages specially reserved for native passengers. Indeed, it is high time that this necessary reform were introduced on all railways, for the number of the said passengers travelling in these carriages is daily on the increase. Besides, when European passengers (*lit.* these people) cannot bear the company of men like Mr. Asghar Ali, I.C.S., who is not only an enlightened and respectable gentleman, but has also resided in England for several years, they cannot be expected to tolerate natives ignorant even of the A B C of European etiquette. The only remedy for the evil, therefore, is the adoption of the above suggestion, the present state of affairs being a prolific source of much unpleasantness, nay, something far worse.

29. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1902, referring to the recent orders of the Government of India directing the provision of latrine accommodation on 3rd class carriages, writes as follows :—

Grievances of native passengers.

"Thanks to continued agitation, a just and long-standing grievance of Indian railway passengers is going to be removed at last. As the reader is aware, orders have been issued by the Government of India directing all Managers of State Railways to provide latrine accommodation, as early as possible, in all intermediate and 3rd class carriages running on mail and fast passenger trains. The fact of even the Nizám's Railway leaving behind the British Indian railways in this respect has put the Government of India to the blush. We are glad the Government, in calling the attention of the Railway authorities to this particular grievance, has given a desirable prominence to the very fact which the Indian Press has been tired of pointing out now and again, namely, that it is the 3rd and intermediate class passengers who contribute the most towards the existence of the Railway Companies, and that, for this particular reason, their grievances cannot be afforded to be overlooked. The intervention of Government for the removal of this one of the most serious and long-standing of grievances of the intermediate and 3rd class railway passengers has caused a feeling of relief and gratitude throughout the country. We hope that this is but a prelude to many reforms in the railway administration, as in other directions, that we expect to see under Lord Curzon's sympathetic and energetic rule."

30. The *Bhárat Pratáp* (Delhi), for January (received on 25th March) 1902, complains that there being no platforms at the stations on the Calcutta-Puri Railway, passengers are subjected to considerable inconvenience in alighting from, and taking their seats in, the train. The lighting arrangements on the Railway are also defective, nay, passengers have to travel in the dark between Khurda Road and Puri Station. After remarking that the intermediate and 3rd class carriages on the said Railway are supplied with latrines, the Editor alleges that clerks employed at some of the stations behave like *Pandás*, and that this trait of their character is culculated to cause considerable inconvenience to passengers, especially on the occasion of religious fairs.

Want of platforms at the stations on the Calcutta-Puri Railway.

31. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1902, remarks that the duties of the "out-door" Railway staff are of such a responsible character that the appointment of incompetent and inexperienced persons to perform the same is calculated to lead to untoward occurrences resulting in loss, not only of property, but also of life. It is with the object of averting such calamities that every Railway maintains a "relieving" staff to relieve members of the first-named staff proceeding on leave. The writer then goes on to say that some time back Mr. Littlewood issued orders to the effect that no member of the relieving staff employed for service on the North-Western Railway should

Grievances of the relieving staff of the North-Western Railway.

be required to work in (? the Traffic Superintendent's) office. It is, however, to be regretted that these orders are only partially obeyed, and that sometimes members of the said staff are put to this work. Not infrequently a man is, after a day's work in the office, ordered out, and has to travel at night in order to be at his post on the following morning. This, adds the correspondent, not only leads to the untoward occurrences referred to above, but also tells injuriously on the health of the members of the relieving staff. He then calls upon the Manager and the Traffic Superintendent of the North-Western Railway to look into the matter and take steps to remedy the evil complained of.

The road between Gujrát and Jalálpur Jattan.

32. A correspondent writing to the *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, complains that the road between Gujrát and Jalálpur Jattan is in such a wretched condition that persons travelling over it in ekkás often stand in danger of losing their lives. He then calls upon the District authorities to have the road repaired, taking care to see that the contractor does not perform the work in a perfunctory manner.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Income-tax.

33. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, remarks that the revision of income-tax, which is to be taken in hand in the beginning of the new financial year, should be conducted in such a way that no one should be over or under assessed. It should also be seen that no Government officer takes advantage of the assessment work to avenge himself on persons against whom he may have a grudge. The Editor adds that if income tax were assessed in a more careful manner, the assessment would neither be unpopular nor would any objections be filed against the findings of assessing officers. He suggests that the assessment should not rest with Tahsíldárs alone, but that in each district the work should be entrusted to a Board composed of Extra Assistant Commissioners and such non-official leading native gentlemen as are free from racial prejudices. After remarking that the people are opposed, not to the imposition of the tax, but to the manner in which it is assessed, he observes that the statements of their income filed by people should be accepted as genuine ; that in case some are regarded as untrustworthy, this should be established by incontrovertible proof and no tax imposed merely on conjectural grounds. The Editor then suggests that in case of disagreement between the assessing officer and a tax-payer the matter should be referred to two arbitrators, one representing Government and the other the tax-payer. He further remarks that no one, whether a Government servant or not, having dealings with persons from whom it is proposed to levy income-tax, should have anything to do with the assessment work. He wishes to mention here that, because of such officials, not a few persons have escaped the imposition of the tax or pay only a nominal amount. In conclusion, he remarks that it is difficult to arrive at the truth where *Lambardárs*, *Zilddrs* or *Sufedposhes* swayed by party spirit are required to assist assessing officers.

34. The *Abkhár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the bubonic plague forms the chief topic of conversation in Delhi, and that an apprehended outbreak of the epidemic has caused quite a panic among the people. So far, however, only imported cases have occurred and the Anglo-Indian newspapers are wrong in giving out that the disease has broken out in the city. The writer then suggests that if people from Patiála and Ambala were prohibited from entering Delhi it would continue to remain immune from the plague. The arrangements, he adds, made at the local railway station to this end are not satisfactory, and the residents of infected places, nay, even plague patients, are flocking to the city in large numbers. He then praises the Deputy Commissioner for interesting himself in the sanitation of the city, and says that the Municipal sweepers, who are a lazy lot, should be made to do their work in a more thorough manner.

The plague.

35. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th March (received on the 1st April) 1902, after remarking that the increase of the bubonic plague in Siálkot has plunged the whole city into mourning, takes the local Wards Committees to task for their indifference in the matter. The Editor alleges that so far some of these Committees have not met even once. Nor, he adds, is there any hope of their doing so in future, seeing that their Presidents and members have fled the city for dear life. After remarking that these worthies should be replaced by better men, he observes that the present condition of the residents of Siálkot is pitiable in the extreme and should excite the sympathy of the authorities.

The same.

36. One Badr-ud-dín, a Barrister at Ráwalpindi, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th March 1902, says that in his book on Indian politics, which has been distributed broadcast in England, Lord Roberts states that the residents of European countries look upon Native newspapers as of no account in the world of journalism. Indeed, it is under such an impression that even important articles published in these newspapers are not reproduced by their European contemporaries. This state of affairs, adds the writer, is due to the fact that the papers in question do not unite in order to devise means to win the respect, not only of the British Government, but also of other Governments. He then suggests the establishment of a Press Association in order to gain this end, and remarks that the first object of the Association should be to create in the minds of educated natives a taste for reading newspapers. The proposed society should also take steps to prevent the publication of articles calculated to lead to religious disturbances, and should preach love and union so as to knit together the people of India into one nation and make them reflect over their requirements.

Native newspapers.

37. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th March 1902, says that the request of candidates for the post of Náib Tahsíldár that examinations for the said post, like that for Tahsíldárships, be held twice a year, appears to be extremely reasonable, especially as the subjects for the former examination are fewer than those for the latter.

A suggestion to hold the Examination for the post of Náib Tahsíldár twice a year.

38. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 5th March 1908, says that Lahore stands in great need of a reading room well supplied with Vernacular and English newspapers, and suggests that one should be started in connection with the Punjab Public Library. The Editor feels confident that if a subscription list were opened the money required for the papers would be forthcoming in a short time. He also expresses the hope that gentlemen in the mufassil will render pecuniary help to the institution.

Want of a reading room at Lahore.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—12-4-08—70.

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Boer War.

1. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1902, after remarking that the Transvaal War has all along been conducted in a civilized manner, says that recently a respectable Boer merchant paid a visit to Amritsar. As soon as the Editor came to know of this, he found out the aforesaid gentleman's address and hastened to interview him. In reply to his questions he was informed that the Boers were a liberty-loving people; that they hated owning allegiance to foreigners; that they could make no progress under any Government but their own; and that when unable to continue the struggle they would not emigrate to Europe or Chilli, but would settle in the wastes of Central Africa. The dopper merchant could not say when the war would come to an end, but he admitted that the treatment accorded to Boer prisoners was all that could be desired. He added that the Transvaalers bore the British no grudge, and that all they wanted was to preserve their own independence.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st March and 4th and 7th April 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	8,338	1	4
1. Doctor Dolat Khán of Bangah, Jullundur District	... ...	6	9	0
2. Received through Bábu Ghulám Qásim, Sub-Overseer, Patiála	...	9	14	0
3. Received through Sher Muhammad of Gurdáspur	... ...	77	2	4
4. Bábu Zahír-ud-dín and Mián Mohdi Khán, of Ambala	... ...	3	14	0
5. Sheikh Abdul Azíz, Manager of the *Vakil*, Amritsar	... ...	1	0	0
6. Sheikh Siráj-ud-dín, Native Surgeon, Delhi	... ...	16	0	0
7. Received through Maulvi Muhammad Bakhsh, Pleader, Jullundur	...	6	0	0
8. Received through Sheikh Abdul Azíz of Danápur	... ...	8	2	0
9. Received through Munshi Muhammad Yúsaf of Banda, Meerut District	...	7	0	0
10. Munshi Nasír-ud-dín Ahmad, Proprietor, Sami-ul-Núr Press, Agra	...	3	0	0
11. Háfiz Fíroz-ud-dín, Deputy Inspector of Police, Amritsar	... ...	3	5	0
12. Received through Maulvi Wazír-ud-dín, Mauza Napahti, Gaya District		55	0	0
Total	—	8,514	15	8

The name.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th April 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 28th March 1902		2,646	0	10
1. Mián Rukn-ud-dín, General Foreman, *Civil and Military Gazette* Press, Lahore		2	14	0
2. Received through Qázi Muhammad Sulaimán, Special Magistrate and Gadh Captain, Patiála		279	5	0
3. Syad Guláb Shah, Settlement Tahsildár, Mansehra, Hazára District ...		20	0	0
4. Tafazal Husain, Forest Officer, Bhimber Division, Kashmír State ...		10	0	0
5. Received through Munshi Nizám-ud-dín, Financial Secretary, Anjuman-i-Himáyat-i-Islám, Lahore ...		50	0	0
6. Munshi Anwar Ali, Copyist, Sub-Judge's Office, Patna ...		1	0	0
7. Received through Ahmad Husain and Dildár Husain, General Merchants, Lucknow		56	0	0
8. Received through Maulvi Muhammad Azím, Honorary General Secretary, Anjuman-i-Hidáyat-i-Islám, Mewat		92	2	0
9. Received through Mián Allah Bakhsh of Ludhiána		134	4	0
Total	...	2,691	9	10*
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	1,072	3	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	3,763	12	10

* Out of this a sum of Rs. 2,121-9-10 was remitted to Turkey and the cash in hand is now Rs. 570.

(b)—Home.

Recruiting for the Indian Army.

4. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st April 1902, writing about recruiting in India publishes remarks similar to those which appeared in the *Tribune* of the 27th February last (*vide* paragraph 5 of the Selections No. 11), and says that no class of His Majesty's Native subjects should be declared unfit for service in the Army unless they have been given a trial and found wanting. Every Hindu and Muhammadan, of whatever caste, should be allowed to enlist, and the authorities should disabuse themselves of the idea that only men of tall stature can make good soldiers.

India and the title of the heir-apparent to the British throne.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st March 1902, says that the *Civil and Military Gazette* has in its issue of the 27th idem expressed the opinion that the title of the Prince of Wales should be so added to as to indicate His Royal Highness' connection with India. The addition pro-

posed by that paper, however, is not likely to prove acceptable to the Indian public. The Editor then suggests that "*Sahib Alam*," the title by which heirs-apparent of the Mughal Emperors of India were known, should be added to that of the Prince of Wales.

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

6. A correspondent writing to the *Ahlúwdlia Gasette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1902, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 11), says that the thrashing administered to Titlu Rám previous to his being sent to jail had the effect of bringing on an attack of fever. Soon after this the prisoner received a visit from Doctor Wazír Khán and was told that he had been sent for by the Rája. He replied that he would present himself before His Highness as soon as fever had left him. Upon this the Doctor went away, but presently returned to the jail to inform Titlu Rám that he had been sentenced by Dusht Nikandan Sain to undergo simple imprisonment for six months and pay a fine of Rs. 140. The poor man desired to be enlightened as to what he had done to deserve the punishment, but Wazír Khán only smiled at him and went his way. The writer then goes on to say that a few days later Mr. Anderson paid a visit to Suket and inspected the local jail. Here he saw Titlu Rám, heard the story of the latter's troubles, and told him that justice would be done him. Soon after this Doctor Wazír Khán made a false report to the effect that the prisoner refused to do the work allotted to him. But Maulvi Syad Abdullah, the Wazír, who personally enquired into the matter, reported that Titlu Rám was ill and unable to work. This did not, however, deter the worthy Doctor from submitting a similar report a second time and adding that the prisoner had used abusive language towards him. The Rája showed the report to the Wazír and directed the latter to have the man caned by way of punishment. Syad Abdullah was now in a fix and did not know what to do. At last he decided to make further enquiries, and these proved that the second report was also false. Nevertheless, after the Syad had, for reasons which need not be mentioned in this letter, resigned his appointment and left Suket, the Rája called for this report and after a perfunctory examination of certain biassed witnesses had Titlu Rám caned in His Highness' own presence. It may be added that Tale Muhammad, a Muharrir in the Divisional Court, Hoshiárpur, who prepared the file regarding the affair, received a reward of Rs. 22,000 wherewith to educate his son in England. The amount is being paid in instalments, Rs. 2,000 being remitted to the boy monthly in the country named. The correspondent then goes on to say that on the day on which Titlu Rám was to be released the Rája induced Jamádár Híru to make a report (bearing a previous date) to the effect that, when about to be handcuffed the prisoner had made an attempt to escape. As a result of this, the man was sentenced to undergo imprisonment for a further period of one year and to pay another fine of Rs. 150.

Kashmír affairs.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 31st March 1902, says that there is no truth in the communication recently published by the *Paisa Akhbár* on the subject of the education of the Muhammadan residents of

Kashmír (*vide* paragraph 11 of the Selections No. 10). It is wrong to say that the number of Musalmán teachers in State schools is small compared with that of their co-religionists inhabiting the Happy Valley. The very contrary is the case; for not only are Hindu teachers fewer in number than their Muhammadan *confreres*, but they are also paid at lower rates. After quoting instances in support of this, the writer observes that the statement of the *Paisa's* correspondent that there was no necessity to create an appointment of Assistant Inspector of Schools in Kashmír is mendacious in the extreme. There can be no doubt that that worthy would have written in quite a different strain had the post been conferred upon a Musalmán. Equally misleading is his assertion that while grants-in-aid are paid to a Hindu and a Mission School, nothing whatever is given to Muhammadan schools. The latter institutions hardly deserve the name of schools, and so far not a single student from them has passed even the Primary Examination. As for the former, they send up boys for University examinations and have been in existence for years past. Again, to the best of the writer's knowledge, no grant-in-aid is paid to the Hindu school, which, by the way, prepared 13 students for the last Middle School Examination.

The Nizám's title.

8. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 31st March 1902, says that the *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 27th idem remarks that there are no Muhammadan titles corresponding to the Hindu ones of Mahárája and Mahárája Bahádur, and suggests the institution of Amír and Amír Bahádur to supply the deficiency. The *Gazette* further suggests that the Nizám should be the first recipient of the honor. Had, however, the Editor of that paper been acquainted with the history of India, he would not have proposed the said title for the ruler of Hyderabad. It may be mentioned that Ala-ud dín, Gangu, the founder of the Bahmani Kingdom in the Deccan, as well as his descendants, were styled "Shah." Nay, even their servants, who appropriated to themselves parts of the kingdom, were called by the same name. And the Nizám, being the ruler of the said part of India and therefore a representative of the Bahmani kings, it is only appropriate that he should be given the title of Shah. Besides, when the descendants of Nawáb Saadat Ali Khán of Oudh are styled "Shah," there is no reason why the honor should be withheld from the rulers of Hyderabad.

IV.—KINE-KILLING.

Seth Chandu Lál of Hissar and the cow-protection movement.

9. The following appears in the *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 4th April 1902:—

"The cow is the sacred animal of the Aryans, and in fact every one of whatever creed or nation he may be cannot but regard her with reverential and grateful kindness. The cow is the mainstay of the Indian populace. Indian famines can directly be traced to the immense slaughter of this most innocent and most useful creature. An ox that costs Rs. 100 now could be had in olden times for Rs. 20. This is the reason why an agriculturist of an average position is miserable. The mufassil people know how ill-fed and weak the oxen and the buffaloes are that are made to do the work of agriculture in all its wretchedness. A poor farmer cannot afford to purchase a team of good

oxen, and if unfortunately an ox dies he is practically ruined. This was not the case half a century back. It may be due to some extent to the increased area of land that is now under cultivation, but the high prices of the animals and the consequent misery of the Indian peasantry are due in a great measure to the sad fact that a large number of cattle are slaughtered and the rest not at all well taken care of. Any effort in the direction of saving the cattle from being butchered for beef, therefore, must be looked upon as highly commendable, and the noble and magnanimous act of Seth Chandu Lál deserves the highest praise and gratitude that can be given to a benefactor of cattle.

"The Government was going to put to auction about twelve hundred cows and bullocks and the butchers were of course there to bid for them.

"Seth Chandu Lál could not bear to see the sacred animals carried away by those who were sure to butcher them. He, therefore, purchased all of them at a cost of about 22 thousand and has, we are glad to learn, distributed them at cost price among his own tenants.

"This is truly what an Arya ought to do, and Seth Chandu Lál deserves the highest admiration for his noble and magnanimous deed."

Kine-slaughter in India and the coming Coronation.

10. The *Akbhár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th April 1902, states that a certain gentleman is of opinion that the best commemoration of the King-Emperor's Coronation will be the prohibition of kine-slaughter in India.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The last anniversary of the Hissar Arya Samáj.

11. The *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 4th April 1902, publishes the following:—

"The last anniversary of the Hissar Arya Samáj, whose proceedings will be found elsewhere, will ever be remembered as being the most notable meeting ever held anywhere in the Samájic world. The Hissar Samáj has always been one of the foremost Samájes of the Punjab both in respect of money matters and the number of disinterested workers. Elsewhere will be found a brief account of the magnanimous charity of Seth Chandu Lál, who has just now rescued more than a thousand cattle from being mercilessly butchered * * * * . Our readers are already familiar with the name of Pandit Lakhpat Rái and know him by reputation as one of the most earnest and sincere workers of the Samáj. His strong faith, his love and almost fanatical zeal for his *dharma* and the services he has already rendered to the Samáj have long since made him an idol of the Arya public. This time he has outdone even himself. A man of humble means he has given away the princely sum of Rs. 14,000 for the various institutions of the Samáj. Not only that, he has almost given an assurance to the Arya public that, notwithstanding the fact that he may continue his professional work for a year or two more, he is to be theirs in body and in soul.

"The noble example of Pandit Lakhpat Rái melted the hearts of the audience, and the result was that another brave spirit of the Samáj came forward with a donation of Rs. 4,000."

Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple.

12. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1902, complains that Colonel Jawála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple, and his Munshi, Bhola Singh, have been misappropriating large sums of money belonging to the Temple, and regrets that Sikh Sardárs and Sabhás should so far have taken no notice of the loot. After remarking that the authorities should be requested to move in the matter, the Editor says that it is rumoured that the Deputy Commissioner has, through a certain local official, called on the Manager to produce the books containing accounts of the Temple income and expenditure. It is also whispered that His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor has privately directed the Colonel to resign his post. If these reports are true the entire Sikh community has cause to feel deeply grateful to Sir Charles Rivaz and the head of the Amritsar District. Should they, however, turn out to be unfounded, the followers of the Gurús should request the Deputy Commissioner as well as the Commissioner to overhaul the Temple accounts and abstain from dispensing with the services of Jawála Singh and his Munshi until this is done. The Editor further remarks that both the worthies named have appropriated to themselves quite a number of ornamental articles belonging to the Golden Temple, and that if the list of such articles prepared at the time of the retirement of Sardár Arjan Singh were compared with the articles now in stock, the guilt of the Manager would be established beyond doubt. It may be mentioned here that the amounts of money orders received for the Temple from the *Mufassil* are also, except in very rare instances, misappropriated. Again, the majority of the items of expenditure entered in the Temple account books are fictitious. The Editor wishes to mention in this connection that while petty items are supported by payees' receipts, no such documents are forthcoming in case of larger sums of money, which is significant in the extreme. He also asserts that the amounts alleged to have been paid to Nahang Singh or the Langarkhána were never so disbursed. He then accuses Colonel Jawála Singh of having embezzled certain sums of money out of the Jalan Fund, and suggests that the Colonel should be replaced by Sardár Jíwan Singh, Mán, who, he says, is an able, honest, experienced, educated and rich gentleman.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

13. A correspondent writing to the same paper endorses the Editor's remarks regarding the misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District (*vide* paragraph 15 of the Selections No. 6), and alleges that although some of the Mahants who manage these endowments have, like *Fakírs*, their heads covered with long matted hair, they live in grand style, drink wine and eat flesh. Again, they maintain hordes of servants who are ever ready to perjure themselves for their sake. To make matters worse, such *badmáshes*, robbers, dakaits and thieves as can find an asylum nowhere else seek protection in the *Akhárás* of the said Mahants. After promising to reveal later on what takes place in the *Kothi* of Paras Rám (Agent of Mahant Náranjan Dás) every night after 9 P.M., the writer alleges that their poor and respectable neighbours are having a very bad time of it at the hands of "such stallions." He adds that a certain person residing in the Dhobián Bazár, Jalbeválián Katrán,

Amritsar, has instituted a case against three or four women and two men. It may be mentioned that he has done so at the instance of a disciple of a certain Mahant, and that the object of the prosecution is to compel one of the women to send her daughter to the said Mahant. Rái Topan Rám, however, in whose Court the case is pending, may be depended upon to do justice to the accused. The correspondent then calls upon Government to enquire into the conduct of such Mahants and resume the *jágirs* enjoyed by them, especially as according to the conditions of the grant persons of immoral character are precluded from serving at *Akhárás*.

Religious endowments and Government.

14. In commenting on Mr. Ibbetson's reply to the Hon'ble Syed Husain Bilgrami's question in the Viceregal Council asking Government to make certain inquiries in connection with Muhammadan religious and charitable endowments, the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th March 1902, remarks as follows:—

"Mr. Ibbetson had, of course, in his mind the Government policy of non-interference in religious matters when he refused compliance with Mr. Bilgrami's request, and it was in compliance with the same policy that last year Government refused to support Mr. Ananda Charlu's Bill to regulate Hindu religious endowments. In both these instances Government has acted very wisely, and we have no doubt its action will command the appreciation of the community at large. We do not deny that there are many things in the management of Hindu and Muhammadan religious endowments that call for reform, but this is a matter in which, above all others, the people should be left to regulate their affairs themselves. It is the growth of a healthy public opinion that should be called in for reform in this direction, and not the legislative interference of Government. Even the enlightened ideas of the small educated section would be out of place in their application in this direction, excepting so far as they might help in morally influencing the ideas of the masses."

The sea voyage, the Hindús and the coming Coronation.

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1902, adverting to the report that Mr. Justice Guru Dás Bannerji is one of 15 representative Indians selected to be present at the King-Emperor's Coronation in London, remarks as follows:—

"Mr. Justice Guru Dás Banerji's visit to England, undertaken as it must be under orthodox regulations and under the sanction of Pandits recognised by all Bengal, may have some effect in relaxing the bonds of orthodoxy and making it modify its attitude towards foreign travel so as to suit the requirements of modern times. If for this reason only, and no other, we sincerely hope the learned Judge will be induced to accept the Government's invitation and undertake the journey to London. Of the many important social and political results that may be expected to follow from the Coronation, it will not be the least if foreign travelling be rendered easier for Hindús of the higher and orthodox classes. This may be effected if leading representatives of the orthodox community like Mr. Justice Guru Dás Banerji,

who command the confidence of all classes of people in Bengal, socially as well as morally, would pave the way for more lenient conditions of re-admission into society by undertaking a journey themselves."

Jesus Christ.

16. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 24th March (received on the 4th April) 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 17 of the Selections No. 11), says that the teachings of Christ being very defective and incomplete, they are calculated to make one indifferent to religion. The doctrine of vicarious punishment, adds the Editor, deepens this indifference still further and deadens human faculties. Briefly put this doctrine means that the only way which God could discover of ensuring the salvation of sinners was to doom His only Son to an accursed death on the Cross. And Christ was crucified and cursed in order to have the sins of mankind forgiven. The Editor does not wish to dilate on the injurious influence the said doctrine has exercised on the followers of Christianity. He would content himself with merely stating that the habits of drinking and debauchery prevalent among the worshippers of the Cross are known to all. After remarking that the doctrine of vicarious punishment is absurd in the extreme, he observes that far from putting down sinfulness the same conduces to the leading of a sinful life. It may be added that Mr. Lefroy quotes an extract to show that Christ's teachings on the subject of intercession are superior to those of other prophets; that he was an embodiment of the religion taught by him; and that the works performed by him while living among men were, so to say, manifestations of the attributes of God. The Editor concludes by promising to analyse these statements at some future time.

Islám and the *Núr Afshán*.

17. The *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), of the 15th March (received on the 9th April) 1902, takes exception to the tone of a communication published in the *Núr Afshán* of 14th ultimo (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 13). Such writings, adds the Editor, not only serve no useful purpose, but are also calculated the create estrangement between the people and Government. It may be mentioned here that if the *Núr Afshán's* correspondent is of opinion that the tenets of Islám clash with laws of the highest order, he must be a man of limited education and narrow views. At all events, he should remember that objectionable writings like his are calculated to prove injurious to the interests of Government, and that if Christian writers do not mend their ways, Government will be forced to curtail the liberty now enjoyed by them. Indeed, reasons of State demand that such seditious persons should be treated like the turbulent and rebellious Christians of South Africa. The Editor further remarks that the writer of the aforesaid communication alleges that the verse, for commenting on which the former was prosecuted for obscene writing, is such that one feels ashamed to read it. But does he not feel shame in reading those books in which European writers have endeavoured to prove that Christ's birth without a father is not contrary to Science? After expressing his readiness to prove that Islám is superior to Christianity, the Editor deprecates the conduct of the *Núr Afshán's* correspondent in insinuating that Government regards acting upon the teachings of Islám as an offence.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A prosecution under Section 153 A, Indian Penal Code.

18. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th April 1902, reports that the Sessions Judge has reduced the sentence of imprisonment passed against Amid-ud-dín of Delhi (*vide* paragraph 17 of the Selections No. 8), the time spent by the prisoner in jail up to the day on which the judgment was pronounced being considered sufficient punishment. The fine inflicted on the man has not been remitted.

Prosecution of the Editor of the *Anwar-ul-Islám* for obscene writing.

19. The Editor of the *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), in its issue of the 1st March (received on the 9th April) 1902, reports that the case for obscene writing instituted against him by Government came up for hearing on the 26th February last. He was defended by Mián Fazal Husain Khán, Barrister-at-Law, while the Government Advocate (? Public Prosecutor) appeared for the Crown. The proceedings commenced with the Mián making a speech on behalf of the defence. He spoke for about two hours and succeeded in proving that the incriminating article was intended to refute the *Arya Musáfir Magazine's* allegation* that the Qurán taught sodomy. The Government Advocate then spoke for a few minutes, after which Mián Fazl Husain Khán made a second lengthy and eloquent speech. The Magistrate pronounced his judgment on the following day, and it was to the effect that the Editor should, under Section 562 of the Criminal Procedure Code, be required to enter into a personal recognizance for Rs. 100 for a year. It was, however, recorded in the judgment that the teachings of the Qurán were not what the *Musáfir* represented them to be. The Magistrate added that the accused having referred to a medical work in support of his contention he should only be required to enter into a personal recognizance. In conclusion, the Editor expresses his intention of appealing from the order passed against him.

Honorary Magistrates in the Punjab.

20. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st April 1902, says that although the Honorary Magistrates in the Punjab rendered valuable help to the Courts by disposing of 16 per cent. of the criminal cases instituted in the Province during the past year, they should do as much work as their paid *confrères*. Indeed, if an addition were made to their number they would undoubtedly prove equal to the task. After expressing a hope that Sir Charles Rivaz will took into the matter, the Editor suggests that men of position, reputed for their ability and honesty, should alone be appointed Honorary Magistrates, remarking that the unsatisfactory workings of some of the Honorary Benches is mainly due to the defective system of selection adopted in the case of the said Magistrates. He adds that if in future District Officers were to recommend really deserving persons for the honor, the present deplorable state of affairs would be remedied in a short time.

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* There is no mention of this in the article. On the contrary, it is expressly stated in the opening lines that the article is an answer to a query from a Muhammadan correspondent. The article in the *Arya Musáfir* was published two more than eight months previously.

(b)—Police.

A charge against Police constables of Amritsar.

21. A correspondent writing to the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1902, says that the local Police constables are recruited from respectable (used ironically) families and that their official superiors do not know how they support themselves. He adds that the constables received their pay (for March) at 5 P.M. on the 2nd idem and that the entire amount was gambled away within two hours. They will have, therefore, to make poor shop-keepers their support for the whole month (of April), while dark nights are sufficient to enable them to obtain the cost of the provisions borrowed from the latter. The constables frequently pass their nights in the bazárs by themselves, and presumably they pick locks and pay off shop-keepers, the odium for the theft being thrown on thieves.

Disorderly behaviour of some Pathán soldiers stationed at Ferozepore.

22. The *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 7th April 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that on the last 'Id day (21st March) a Pathán soldier of the 33rd Punjab Infantry stationed at Ferozepore insulted a female resident of the City. Upon a man, named Wasil, interfering, a fight ensued between him and the soldier, the latter being severely thrashed. The next day the Pathán brought about 40 of his comrades to the City with the object of wreaking vengeance on Wasil. Failing, however, to discover the man, these sons of Mars began to beat innocent way-farers, one of whom was almost done to death. At the Multáni Gate they were opposed by the Police, and attacked the latter with *láthis*. The Police, however, although much smaller in number, made a gallant fight of it, the daring displayed by Constable Ishar Dás being especially noteworthy. Another constable named Langrás (?) also fought bravely and was killed in the melee, while seven more constables were wounded. The writer adds that 19 soldiers have been arrested up to the present, and that Captain King has rendered valuable help in effecting the arrests.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Complaint against Mr. Gardener, Secretary, Amritsar Municipality.

23. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 24 of Selections No. 14), complains that Mr. Gardener gives all big contract works to a contractor whom he brought with him from Mooltan. It may be added that the said contractor has spent less than the estimated amount on the erection of quarters for the Octroi Munshi working near the bridge adjoining the local Railway Station. After suggesting that the quarters should be inspected by some Engineer, the Editor regrets that there should be no Engineer—European or Native—in the service of the Amritsar Municipality. He suggests the employment of one, and says that otherwise complaints will continue to be made against Mr. Gardener.

Sikhs and the Amritsar Municipality, &c.

24. The same paper says that the local Sikh community is very inadequately represented on the local Municipality and the Honorary Bench. It may be added that at present not one of the nominated Municipal Commissioners

is a Sikh, Sardár Sundar Singh, of Majítha, who resigned his post having been succeeded by Bábu Gopál Dás. After calling upon the District authorities to look into the matter, the Editor asks why Sardár Jewan Singh, Mán, Honorary Magistrate, was not presented to the Lieutenant-Governor on the occasion of His Honor's recent visit to Amritsar.

A complaint in connection with the conservancy of Lahore.

25. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th April 1902, says that the local filth carts leave their stands very late, and that the practice is very injurious to the health of the City. The Editor is of opinion that the carts should reach their stands at 5 A. M. instead of at 6, and that they should be outside the City by 8-30 (A. M.) at the latest.

(d)—Education.

The Gurukul.

26. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 4th April 1902, reports that the opening ceremonies of the Gurukul were successfully performed at Kangri on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th ultimo. Although the plague arrangements at Hardwár prevented not a few of the Mufassil Arya Samájists from witnessing the function, still about five hundred Arya ladies and gentlemen were present at Kangri on the auspicious occasion in question. On the 25th the Brahmcháris (the students of the Gurukul are to be so called) went out to beg and brought back about Rs. 600. The widow of the late Pandit Lekh Rám subscribed Rs. 2,000 towards the Gurukul Fund, while Rs. 400 were collected at the meetings.

The same.

27. One Hardawari Lál, an Arya of Bhiwáni, writing to the same paper, remarks that the Gurukul represents the best fruit so far borne by the Arya Samáj, and that the institution will not only work out the regeneration of India, but will also prove the means of making peace and happiness reign throughout the world. He adds that those who look upon the Vedás and the Sanskrit language as storehouses of learning should send their boys to the College and render all possible help to it. After remarking that Western education is defective and unfitted to conduce to the progress of natives, the writer says that the Gurukul should be looked upon as a national concern.

A complaint in connection with the last Middle School Examination.

28. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st April 1902, says that it is rumoured that the cause of large failures among the candidates for the last Middle School Examination from the Siálkot District is that the answer papers of these candidates were examined by a person who has displayed extreme rigour in awarding marks. There can be no doubt that the number of Middle School candidates being very large, it is impossible for one man to examine all the answer papers in a subject, and that the same have consequently to be made over to ordinary persons. But it is a fact that these worthies disregard the instructions issued by the University regarding the examination of papers. The Editor then goes on to say that it would appear that the papers in English of the students from the Siálkot District were sent to a hard-hearted genius (*jin*) who "failed" as many boys as he could, for otherwies

it is difficult to account for the large number of failures in the said subject. In conclusion, the Editor expresses the hope that the Registrar of the local University will look into the matter.

A complaint against the Allahabad University.

29. The *Chaudhwin Sadí* (Ráwalpindi), of the 1st April 1902, deprecates the conduct of the Allahabad University in holding the last B. A. Examination on dates one of which clashed with that of the 'Id-ul-Zuha. The Editor finds fault with the University for overlooking gazetted holidays, and is afraid that a University which does not take the trouble to ascertain on what dates public holidays fall and prevents candidates for its examinations from performing their religious rites is not likely to turn out graduates worthy the name.

Non-observance of gazetted holidays in the Education Department.

30. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st April 1902, complains that the local Municipal Board High School was not closed on the 24th March last, a gazetted holiday. The Editor also learns from a Zafarwál correspondent that the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Ráwalpindi Circle, inspected some schools during the Easter holidays. After remarking that Government servants should not fail to observe gazetted holidays, he invites the attention of the Local Government to the above irregularities, and expresses the hope that some steps will be taken to prevent similar occurrences.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The land revenue assessment.

31. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th March 1902, in criticising the last budget debate in the Supreme Council adverts to the remission by Government of certain arrears of land revenue, and remarks as follows:—

"The remission of 198 lakhs of arrears of land revenue is a happy thought, and indicates a change of policy which was foreshadowed in Lord George Hamilton's recent speech in Parliament, replying to Mr. Caine, as well as in the Government of India's Land Revenue Resolution. It is an indirect admission on the part of the Government that more is sometimes taken out of the ryot than he is able to bear."

The same.

32. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th April 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 27 of Selections No. 14), says that the general condition of the *zamíndárs* in India is anything but satisfactory. Indeed, if the agriculturists had been a thriving community, Government would not have passed the Punjab Land Alienation Act, or felt the necessity of opening Agricultural Banks in the United Provinces. The Editor then goes on to say that those who advocate an enhancement of the land revenue contend that the demand was far heavier during Aurangzeb's reign than it is at present. They, however, forget that during the Muhammadan Emperor's time the *zamíndárs* had not to bear the multifarious and heavy expenses now incidental to litigation, or grease the palms of Patwárís and certain other officials. Strictly speaking, these calls on the purse of the tillers of the soil should be included in the revenue collected from them. The Editor promises to resume his remarks at some future time.

33. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a supplement dated 4th April 1902, suggests that if Government were to make arrangements for the irrigation of lands at Bhera and the neighbouring villages of Malakpur, Rangpur, Ajabgarh, Fatehgarh, &c., from the *rájbaha* of the perennial canal flowing near the said tracts, it would be to the advantage of both Government and the land-owners concerned. It is true that there already exists an inundation nullah called the Rání Bah for the irrigation of the lands in question; but there is little or no water in it at the time of the *rabi* sowings. *Rabi* crops in that part of the Punjab, therefore, generally wither away, while even those *zamíndárs* who manage to get their fields watered from wells have to pay *abiána* all the same. The Editor is afraid, that if his suggestion is not adopted, agriculturists of the villages named will be obliged to migrate to other places and abandon their holdings, thereby causing considerable loss to Government. He then emarks that the evil can be avoided by supplying the Rání Bah Nullah with water from the said canal.

Irrigation of lands at Bhera and the neighbouring villages.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

34. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th March 1902, publishes the following :—

Grievances of third class passengers.

"When Holwell's (purely imaginary) account of the horrors of the Black Hole inflamed the British Isles from one end to another with revengeful passions, scarcely did that generation of Englishmen imagine that revenge would be had, quite unconsciously though, by the North-Western Railway one hundred and fifty years thence, in the shape of intermediate and third class carriages for Indian railway passengers. The terrible overcrowding in the carriages aforesaid on the North-Western Railway has been for years a subject of constant appeal to the authorities concerned, but somehow or other no notice appears to have so far been taken of this most painful grievance of poor passengers. Only the experienced can understand the feelings of unspeakable relief which overtake the passenger when a change is at last made at Ambala for the East Indian Railway, as well as the feelings of unspeakable horror that overtake him when a change is to be made at Ambala for the North-Western Railway. The evil is due to the paucity of intermediate and third class carriages in proportion to the numbers of passengers.

* * * * * Men are—strange though it may seem—still living who have travelled from Peshawar to Ambala and *vice versâ* standing all the way on tiptoe! We had better not refer to the condition of third class passengers on the North-Western Railway. Suffice it to say that the seeds in the pomegranate are not packed more closely. In the grilling hot weather peculiar to the Punjab railway travelling in the blessed classes aforesaid is the only possible way to a student of history of realising to a certain extent the horrors which Holwell has so powerfully described. If, say, a European gentleman could have been prevailed upon to travel for a short time, in May, June or July, in a third or intermediate class railway compartment on the North-Western Railway, no matter if he were

taken out alive or otherwise at the end of his journey, there would have been no need of writing these lines. We hope Mr. Robertson will kindly see his way to removing this particular grievance."

The same.

35. A correspondent writing to the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 1st April 1902, complains that the coolies at Railway stations demand exorbitant charges for carrying luggage, and not unfrequently use harsh language towards passengers declining to comply with the demand. Again, passengers are put to great inconvenience in procuring their tickets, as they are sold only a few minutes before the arrival of a train. It may be added that often only those who grease the palms of Police constables (the colour of whose uniforms betokens the blackness of their hearts) stationed near the ticket window can manage to secure tickets. To make matters worse third class passengers are admitted to the platform long after first, second and intermediate class passengers have taken their seats, while it is by no means a rare sight to see many of the former left behind through the indifference of ticket-collectors. These unfortunate persons have consequently to wait for another train; and as no suitable waiting rooms exist for them, and the majority of Railway officials are an unsympathetic lot, they do not experience much comfort at the stations. Besides, should they happen to drop to sleep, they are frequently eased of their luggage or cash. After calling upon the authorities to look into the matter, the writer suggests that railway tickets should, like court-fees and postage stamps, be sold by licensed shop-keepers, which would save passengers a great deal of avoidable inconvenience.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The coming Coronation.

36. A "retired Tahsíldár," writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 5th April 1902, says that only an infinitesimal part of the vast population of India can witness the coming coronation festivities. He, therefore, considers it advisable that something should be done to make the auspicious event a red-letter day throughout the country. In his opinion the best way for Government to gain that end is to release prisoners on a very large scale on the coronation day. He then calls upon newspapers throughout India to take up his suggestion and press it on the attention of Government.

The sugar industry in India.

37. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1902, after alleging that the sugar industry in India has been on the wane for some years past, and that the evil is due to the influx into the country of large quantities of imported sugar, remarks as follows:—

"We are aware that the free trade *fetish* is carried to absurd lengths in the British Empire, but we know, at the same time, that an uneasy feeling has got abroad even in Great Britain that a rigid and uncompromising adherence to free-trade principles is injuriously affecting the prosperity of the British Empire. In India the adherents of the free-trade theory are not many. In fact, among the Europeans, both official and non-official, in this country who may be said to have some weight in the Councils of the Empire, the prevailing opinion is largely and distinctly in favour of a policy of protection.

We are glad to note that in this matter of the sugar industry the Indian as well as the Anglo-Indian sections of the Press of this country are of the same way of thinking. The Colonies of the British Empire have protected their industries by legislative enactments in direct contravention of the principles of free trade as understood and implicitly believed in throughout Great Britain. There is no reason whatsoever why similar freedom of action should not be extended to this country. In fact, to fetter the discretion of the Indian authorities in a matter so vitally affecting the best interests of the Indian Empire is to inflict a grievous wrong upon the poor and helpless millions of this country."

[Here follow figures obtained from official reports to show that the sugar industry in India has been declining of late.]

"The comments on these figures by the Director of Land Records and Agriculture, Punjab, disclose a very regretable state of affairs. He says that 'the sugar-refining industry is declining, and that all over the Province, even including the principal sugar-growing tract of the Jullundur Doáb, foreign sugar is under-selling the local product. In the districts of Rohtak, Delhi, Karnál, Jhang, Lahore, Amritsar, Gujránwála and Gujrát, which account for a little over 50 per cent. of the entire sugarcane crop, there is not a single sugar refinery, while in Hoshiárpur the number of refineries is declining, and the product is for the greater part sold as *gur* or unrefined sugar.' The districts above referred to which contain not a single sugar-refinery now were full of them only ten years ago. The practical extinction of a whole industry which was at one time very remunerative is a serious matter for the Province. The demand for refined sugar is on the increase, and it is certainly to be regretted that it should be met by imports from abroad. The countervailing duties referred to by Mr. O'Conor are not sufficient. They have not produced the desired effect, and Government of India's care should be not simply to abolish those duties, out of deference to the Brussels Convention, but to replace them by a more effective customs duty, while taking other steps, through its Agricultural Department, to push on the indigenous sugar industry. The principle that underlies their imposition having been once recognised, there need be no difficulty in enhancement. We trust the Government of Lord Curzon would take this matter up, and apply the requisite remedy before the Indian sugar industry is irretrievably ruined."

The preponderance of Hindu officials in public offices at Kohát.

38. One. Nabi Bakhsh, travelling agent of the Anjuman-i-Islámia (Gujránwála), writing to the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of 1st April 1902, says that all the public offices of Kohát are, with the exception of a few orderlies, chaukídárs and clerks, entirely manned by Hindús. He then publishes a statement to show that of the 125 hands employed in these offices, only 53 are Muhammadans, from which, he says, it is evident that a Muhammadan district like Kohát is entirely in the hands of Hindús. He, therefore, expresses the hope that Government will equalise the number of Hindu and Musalmán officials in the various courts and district offices at Kohát.

39. In noticing Sir Mackworth Young's recent plague Resolution and Sir Charles Rivaz's speech at Jullundur, the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1902, remarks as follows:—

The plague.

"As to the attitude of the Government, His Honor repeated the assurances of Sir Mackworth as to the willingness and ability of the Sirkár to give every possible help to the people in their struggles against this national calamity. *But in future the help must be asked for.* And the people must not apply for any such measure as is not in accord with the principles approved of by the Government of India, such as imposition of quarantine, or the stopping of communication between infected and uninfected places. It is impossible to keep out the impression that the active and fierce opposition encountered by officials in one or two places in the Province is, among other causes, at the bottom of the change in the plague policy of the Government. We are sure proper enquiries will convince the Government that the opposition was not against the precautionary measures, but against the *sulum* of the subordinates."

40. The same paper, of the 5th April 1902, makes the following remarks in the course of an article headed "Plague measures":—

The same.

"The questions that will naturally arise in his mind (in the mind of a traveller from the Continent or America visiting the Punjab in these days) in regard to the situation will be something like the following:—Does the hold-aloofness signify the intention of the Government to teach habits of self-help and self-reliance, under the most trying conditions, to the population? Is the Government so scrupulous about allowing the fullest freedom of choice and action to the native community that it would not interpose even under circumstances in which non-interference must mean death to thousands? How is it that those entrusted with the well-being of the teeming millions are looking on like benevolent spectators, and doing little, beside advising and exhorting, to save the populace from their own folly and ignorance? How is it that the wretched inhabitants have been practically left to their fate?"

* * * * * * *

"On coming to know the history up to the present of the great plague war—Heaven knows when it will end!—our supposititious traveller will find sufficient explanation as to the apparent indifference of the Government; but will the explanation be satisfactory? Will not the following, among other, ideas occur to him? The hardships attendant on the first phase of the campaign were of such a nature that no people under the sun could have borne them without grumbling, nay, without offering open resistance. Was there any general opposition to the carrying out of the regulations? Certainly not. The disturbances breaking out here and there at long intervals have been due more to the tactless and hasty conduct of subordinate officials than to the perverse hostility of the inhabitants. Discounting a great deal of the stories of lust and rapacity of the subordinate officials and assistants, not a little remains which should more than account for the mad excitement and the aggressive-

attitude of a few of the hundreds of villages and towns affected. For instance, in the Siálkot District the villagers felt that the honor of no young woman was safe as long as certain influential subordinates remained in charge of operations. The people's difficulty was these scoundrels' opportunity. Entreaties, remonstrances, and finally threats proving unavailing, the Rájpúts and other proud communities, who prize female honour above everything else, rose *en masse* and wreaked their vengeance on the chief offender (a Náib Tahsíldár) and his associates. Even admitting for argument's sake that a hundred or so out of ten thousand persons resisted without reason—through sheer perversity or ignorant fear—this should not justify the complete abandonment of the old attitude which may be likened to that of parents towards children. The child kicks and howls and would not take medicine. Sometimes he expresses his dislike in a more naughty manner. Should the *má báp* resolve to teach the little one a lesson by leaving him alone and letting the disease get worse, or should they administer the medicine by any means in their power. They should try sweetening the stuff, and if that be impossible force the child to take it willy nilly. Exactly similar should be the attitude of the *má báp* Sirkár towards its foolish ignorant children, the rayyet. We would leave it to the Government and the thinking people to decide whether we have rightly interpreted the reflections, under the circumstances given, of our fictitious traveller. We would not raise the extremely delicate question whether the rulers could ever have adopted —whatever the risk may have been—the hold-aloof policy if the people had been one with them in blood.

"Sir Mackworth Young said in effect that the apparently *laissez faire* policy was due to the pestilence having attained unmanageable dimensions. But that the present attitude is not solely the result of this sad state of things would be evident from the following extracts from the speech of Sir Charles Rivaz":—[Here follows an extract from His Honor's Jullundur speech regarding Government having abandoned the compulsory enforcement of plague measures owing to the people's unwillingness to adopt the same and their mistrust of the intentions of Government.] "Does not the above show that, nettled or rendered uneasy by 'popular discontent' Government has decided to wash its hands of the business altogether, unless the people themselves prayed for its assistance again? The report regarding the plague in Allahabad for the month of February shows that the people are not such hopeless duffers as they are believed to be. By tact and good management they may be made to adopt all of the measures."

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"We hope the same spirit of reasonableness will spread to the rural areas in this Province."

The same.

41. The *Súraj* (Ambala), of the 31st March (received on the 7th April) 1902, says that passengers leaving the train at Kálka and proceeding Simla-wards are subjected to a medical examination at the former place. It is, however, to be regretted that the Police arrangements in connection with the examination leave great room for improvement. Again, not a few passengers desirous of

avoiding the examination leave the train at the Chandigarh station and thence travel to Simla by a certain *kutcha* road. Similarly, it is possible to go to the summer capital of India through Nálágarh, &c. The Editor then suggests that observation camps should be established at all places through which it is possible to travel to Simla.

Since writing the above he learns that the plague has broken out in a village only a *kos* distant from Kasauli.

The same.

42. The same paper reports that the plague is daily on the increase in the Ambaba City. The Editor, however, regrets that the people should endeavour to conceal seizures, as also deaths from the disease. After remarking that this is calculated to increase the epidemic still further, he says that persons desirous of emigrating to other places are made to undergo quarantine in the Jínd house situated outside the city—those who have had themselves inoculated, for twenty-four hours, and others for ten days. He then goes on to say that a chaprási and a jamadár in the service respectively of the Local District Board and Municipality were one night surprised in the company of a prostitute detained under quarantine, and expresses the hope that the culprits will be punished in an exemplary manner. The Editor then remarks that Dr. Rugnáth Sahái treats plague patients in a considerate and kindly manner, and that inoculation also is now performed by that gentleman. The local conservancy staff is also composed of able persons, while the work of disinfecting houses in which cases of plague occur is being carried on by Lála Mathia Dás, Hospital Assistant, in a praiseworthy manner.

The same.

43. The *Shamím-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 6th April 1902, says that people from Ludhiána and Ambala are migrating to Jullundur in large numbers. It is, however, to be feared that this addition to the population of the last-named city is likely to cost the Jullundurís dear. The Editor then complains that the people themselves are to blame for the spread of the bubonic plague throughout the Punjab. Had they not caused Government to remove the restrictions imposed by it in the first instance residents of infected areas would not have fled from their homes and carried the infection to healthy places. As it is, the people can save themselves only by evacuating their houses and living in the open.

The same.

44. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 5th April 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that so far no effective remedy of the bubonic plague has been discovered. Indeed, Government has given up the attempt in despair and left the people to shift for themselves. After remarking that even inoculation does not afford the least protection against the disease, the correspondent extorts the people to perform *havans* and pray to God to put down the scourge.

45. The *Sirdj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 7th April 1902, publishes a communication, dated the 1st idem (all fools' day), in which the writer reports that a gaunt and grisly demon visited the Siálkot City on the said day and taking its stand on (a rampart of) the local fort continued in that position for two hours. Although the spectre inspired terror in the hearts of the people still thousands of them, including Native and European officials, flocked to have a look at it. It declared itself to be the "Bubonic Plague" and said that it had been sent to punish men for their immoral and irreligious practices and would spare only those who mended their ways. The spectre then disappeared from view, leaving the people puzzled and perplexed.

The same.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 16.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 19th April 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(b)—Home.

The British Government and the people of India.

1. The *Rafí-ul-Akhbár* (Siálkot), of the 8th April 1902, after enumerating the benefits conferred upon India by British rule, remarks that if the English were to leave the country, the Hindús and Muhammadans would be certain to fly at each other's throats. In this connection he wishes to point out that although the latter are numerically inferior to the former, they are quite able to hold their own against the followers of Hindúism. Besides, if, on the termination of British rule, the frontier *Gházis* were to pour down into India they would, if not conquer the country, devastate it from one end to the other. At all events neither Hindús nor Muhammadans would be able to wield the sceptre for long, for the Russians, Portugese, &c., would hasten to invade Hindústán and would easily subjugate the natives. In other words, the country would continue to be ruled by foreigners even if the English were to retire from it. And it is scarcely necessary to add that of all foreign Governments the British is the only one under which India can enjoy peace and prosperity. The Editor, therefore, concludes by exhorting his follow-countrymen to always remain loyal to their present rulers.

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

Frontier affairs.

2. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th April 1902, says that a Bannu newspaper reports that a marriage party from Pesháwar, which arrived at the house of a Khatri of Akora during the preceding week, was attacked by a gang of 50 dakaits. The brigands also burnt down eighty shops and carried away property worth about Rs. 50,000. The paper in question further reports that the Afridís are said to have cut the wire near Tal, and demand that Government should not interfere with their country or construct this (? the proposed Khushalgarh-Thal) railway. The Editor then reproduces from the newspaper in question an account of how a certain street-hawker was recently looted by some soldiers belonging to Company No. 8 of the 4th Infantry Regiment

(? stationed at Bannu) outside the gate adjoining the parade ground (*ghermáta pareti' ke báhir*). The poor man shouted for help more than once, but no one going to his rescue he ran into the city for dear life. A police constable on duty at the gate, who had witnessed the incident, exclaimed that certain devilish soldiers of the 4th Regiment had looted the poor street-hawker. No sooner were the words out of his mouth than the sepoys aforesaid made at him and held out various threats to him. The Bannu journal requests the Commanding Officer concerned to take steps to prevent soldiers detailed to patrol the city from committing such acts of lawlessness.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The coming Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

3. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th April 1902, says that the majority of the residents of India are agriculturists. It is, however, impossible to carry on agriculture or make progress in it without cattle. But these, especially cows and bullocks, are becoming scarcer and scarcer every day, owing to shops for the sale of beef having been opened in almost every town and village and the said flesh being supplied to British soldiers serving in India. This is borne out by the fact that cows and bullocks which could formerly be had for Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 each respectively now cost Rs. 30 and Rs. 100 per head. It may be added that milk and its preparations, which form so large a part of the food of natives, have also become difficult to procure. The correspondent then suggests that the King-Emperor should commemorate his Coronation by issuing orders forbidding, as far as possible, kine-slaughter in India. [Another correspondent also makes similar remarks, and suggests that kine-slaughter, which entails the greatest hardship on the *Zemindárs*—both Hindús and Muhammadans—should be altogether forbidden. He refers to the *firmáns* issued by Akbar and Jahángír to this effect.]

The same.

4. Commenting on the above the Editor invites opinion on the subject, and says that those who can think of a better way of commemorating the happy event in question should make their views public. Those Muhammadan gentlemen who approve of the suggestion should also write to the Editor to signify their approval. Such of their co-religionists as should be anxious to secure some special concession for Muhammadans as a set-off to the one prayed for on behalf of the Hindús should also communicate with him. He promises to do his utmost to bring to the notice of Government the opinions received.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Invitation to Kanwar and Lady Harnám Singh to attend the King-Emperor's Coronation in London and its effect on Native Christians.

5. The *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 11th April 1902, is gratified to learn that Kanwar and Lady Harnám Singh have been invited to attend the King-Emperor's Coronation in London. The Editor states that the entire (Native) Christian community feels proud at the honor, and adds that the distinction thus conferred on two of their members is calculated to bind native followers of Christ still more closely to the British throne.

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 10th April 1902, publishes the following:—

The Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

"If the report is true that the present septuagenarian Manager of the Golden Temple is contemplating retirement, the Sikh community should lose no time in nominating a good successor, and recommending him to Government. It will be solely their fault if any unworthy individual is selected. The first thing is to try to secure unanimity, as far as possible. This is not such an easy matter as it looks on paper. The warlike Khálsa is not given to conceding a point even in a debate; but we think that, if the leaders of the *panth* set their minds to it, it would not be impossible to devise some means whereby it could be ascertained whose appointment would be acceptable to most Sikhs. After fixing upon a nominee, the second step would be to humbly lay before the Government the decision of the Khálsa as to the gentleman best fitted for the difficult and responsible post. And we are confident that as the Government always tries to act in such matters according to the wishes of the people concerned, the proposal of the Khálsa will be readily and gladly accepted."

7. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 31st March (received on the 11th April) 1902, publishes a report of a lecture delivered by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad on the 23rd ultimo. The Mirza commences with asserting that when a messenger from God is persistently rejected and declared to be an impostor the Almighty sets to work to punish his assailants. He adds that in his case the time for such a denouncement has come, seeing that although God has silenced his critics on all points, they show no signs of giving in. He, therefore, advises his followers to hold their peace and look for the wielding of heavenly arms on his behalf. The "Prophet" of Kádián is certain of receiving such help, for he has been persecuted merely for having declared, on the strength of a revelation made to him, that he had been sent into this world to reform mankind. He further remarks that his critics stick at no act of shamelessness or lying, and that Satan has convinced them that it is lawful for them to prefer all sets of false charges against him (the Mirza). Consequently he is of opinion that the said worthies should be left severely alone, and that he and his followers should await God's decision in the matter, the time now spent in noticing the abuse levelled against them being devoted to prayer and repentence. He wishes to mention here that both the pious and the wicked cannot attain nearness to the Almighty, who may be relied upon to kill off the latter. And the fact that there are learned and inspired persons among the Mirza's adversaries cannot help them in the least. A person standing near a latrine must experience the bad smell associated with the place, and the exposure of some *attar* near him can avail him nothing. Indeed, it is impossible to gain anything worthy the name except in a state when one is near to God, and this state can be attained through piety alone. The "Prophet" of Kádián then goes on to say that Christ had to suffer disgrace after disgrace, and that presumably at times Christians experience a sense of shame at this. He is, therefore, at a loss to understand why they should give the founder of Christianity preference over Muhammad. It may be added that the teachings of the Bible are trivial and

Muhammad and Christ.

worthless in the extreme, as is testified by the injunction requiring one to turn one's right cheek to the smiter on the left. Such teachings are mere child's play and signify nothing. It cannot be believed that man was endowed with diverse faculties merely to submit himself to slapping. Indeed, he can prove true to his name only if he brings all his faculties into play. The Bible, however, would have him develop only one of them, to the utter neglect of the rest. As a contrast to this, the Qorán encourages the development of all human faculties, and teaches that each and every one of them should be utilized at the proper time and place. After quoting a verse in support of this Mirza Ghulám Ahmad remarks that the highest of gifts and blessings were vouchsafed to Muhammad, and that the secrets laid bare to him were revealed to no other Prophet. The Mirza adds that it is a matter of surprise to him that ignorant Christians should essay to compare the founder of their religion with that of Islám. Christ's claim was an unpretentious one, and he has clearly said that he had been sent to look after the Israelite flock. And this claim, which is on a par with that for a Lambardárship or Pattídárship, should serve as an index to the courage and perseverance possessed by him. On the other hand, the Prophet has said: "O, ye men I am a messenger to you all from God," and this should afford some idea of his courage and exalted views. It may also be mentioned here that Christ failed even to reclaim the lost sheep of the Israelite flock, nay, he had to suffer discomfiture on all occasions. Far from overcoming his enemies he felt into their hands, and was crucified by them. And this God is compared with Muhammad, who was victorious everywhere, whose enemies were killed before his eyes, who was sent at a time when the world stood in need of him, and who died after having successfully accomplished the mission of his life! It may also be mentioned here that while Christ was betrayed and cursed by Judas Iscariat and Peter respectively, the Prophet's companions were ever ready to lay down their lives for him. In short the founder of Islám was a model prophet, the most perfect and the most impressive. The Mirza then goes on to say that God, who endowed Muhammad with such gifts, has not changed and is as bounteous as of yore. Those, therefore, who brand him as an impostor should remember that in the long run only he who is from the Almighty and has received grace and light from Him can prevail, and that the nation, which is the elect of God, will alone be blessed, spread throughout the world, and inherit the Qorán, &c. The Mirza further remarks that objections having been raised against all his prophecies God has sent the bubonic plague into the world to make men accept him.

The same.

8. The same paper publishes a report of another speech by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, who says that Muhammad was resigned to the will of God in both prosperity and adversity, and that neither Christians, who worship the dead, nor the materialistic Aryás can show such an example of resignation. He then goes on to say that the Christian nations of Europe, which are regarded by some as brave and courageous, are so only through the possession of fire-arms. As for the bravery of the soul, they are wholly devoid of it and must be ranked as cowards. Indeed, their religion, which teaches the worship of the dead, cannot implant daring and courage in the breasts of its followers. The Mirza adds that the falsehood-worshipping Christians have nothing to show but an

example of suicide (the reference is to the crucifixion of Christ). And it is the result of this suicide which causes the richest and the highest among them to seek "a coward's exit out of the world" whenever they are involved in the least trouble. After remarking that suicides are committed in Europe in large numbers every year, the "Prophet of Kádián" observes that this evil is due to the fact that the Christian religion fails to teach resignation to the will of God.

Jesus Christ.

9. The same paper, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 16 of the Selections No. 15), says that the teachings of Christ on the subject of intercession are not superior to those of other prophets. Nay, he does not seem even to realize the true significance of intercession, let alone laying down injunctions of a high order on the point or representing himself as the intercessor between God and man. The Editor then ridicules the doctrine of vicarious punishment, characterises it as absurd and nonsensical, and says that it is calculated to lead to shameful results. He adds that it will appear on reflection that the said doctrine cannot ensure the salvation of mankind. After remarking that the intercessor between man and his creator must be in close touch with both, the Editor endeavours to show that judged by this test Christ cannot be the one. Besides, he has clearly said that he had been sent to look after only the lost sheep of the Israelite flock. Again, the acceptance of the founder of Christianity as intercessor necessitates the belief that he was cursed in order to redeem the sins of mankind, whereas it is sinful and improper in the extreme to speak in this strain of a truthful person.

VII.—General Administration.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 10th April 1902, draws the attention of the Universities Commission to the following matters:—

"(1) On the subject of the extension of the teaching functions of the University the country will simply bless Lord Curzon if the labours of the Commission result in advancing the cause of sound learning, real scholarship, and solid research, *without stifling private enterprise in the cause of high education.* We cannot, and we must not, conceal the fact that an impression is abroad that Government aims a blow at Private Colleges. * * * * Let us assure them that the educated Indians share with them (the members of the Commission), to a great extent, the belief that the present system of University education is defective; that it encourages cram, discounts real learning, and does not further the cause of material advancement. They heartily desire that the Government would find its way to improve it by the introduction of radical reforms and by making liberal grants of funds for the cause of education. They will be very grateful if the Universities are *really* reformed and brought up to the standard of national requirements. But what they are afraid of is lest, in the name and under the war-cry of *sound education*, private enterprise should be strangled and the many thousand youths who now receive their education within the walls of private Colleges told to go back to

their homes, because in the interests of true education Government could neither allow them to be educated in half-equipped Colleges, nor, for want of funds, open better equipped semenaries for them. The presumptions in favour of Government and Mission Colleges, and against the private and unaided Colleges, are already too heavy. The Native Professor stands already condemned, because of *his birth*, added to the fact of his employment in a private College. Can we hope that these presumptions and condemnations will not be made still more heavy and conclusive by the verdict of the Commission? Private Colleges and Indian Professors want no favour, no patronage, and no presumptions. What they ask for is justice and fairplay. • • • •

"(2) Let the Senate be reformed by the elimination of useless and ornamental members, but let us trust that this elimination of an unnecessary element, which is in the main Indian, does not mean adding to the strength of the already powerful, nay, omnipotent, European element, missionary and non-missionary.

"(3) In the matter of University education the needs of the Punjab would be met—

(*a*) by the appointment of better qualified men as Professors of the Government College who are to serve as models to the other institutions;

(*b*) by improving the opportunities of the Punjabi students for all post-graduate studies and particularly in the department of Science;

(*c*) by spending large sums of money on the improvement of the vernacular literature and conferring honors and distinctions on those who spare time and talents for the same;

(*d*) by establishing a good number of Fellowships and Readerships to gain objects (*b*) and (*c*);

(*e*) by improving the prospects of teachers in the Punjab schools;

(*f*) by lessening the number of examinations and subjects of examinations;

(*g*) by allowing students to specialise as soon after the matriculation as may be possible;

(*h*) by making liberal grants for boarding-houses, gymnasiums, play grounds and libraries to all Colleges, Government, aided or unaided;

(*k*) by providing for popular lectures on Science and scientific subjects;

(*l*) by making ample provision for technical education, and by so reforming the Primary and the Secondary education as to meet the general requirements of the community and the country. • • • •

"• • • • We earnestly beg to draw the attention of the University Commission to the desirability of reforms being introduced in the teaching of Sanskrit in the Punjab University, to the necessity of the courses being revised and put on a better regulated system and to the desirability of the Vedic portions being struck out."

11. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1902, writing about the University Commission, says that some three years back it pointed out that while English Universities passed about 90 per cent. of their examinees, the percentage of passes in the examinations of the Punjab University was often 25 or even less. It was further pointed out that while the graduates of the former Universities were strong, active, healthy and industrious young men, their Indian *confrères* were a sickly, timid and lazy lot, incapable of hard work or of rendering any service to their fellow-countrymen. The Editor then goes on to recommend the system of examination by compartments, and says that a candidate failing in one of the subjects of an examination should not be re-examined in those in which he has passed. He also approves of the suggestion made by the Amritsar Temperance Society that the text-books used in public schools and colleges should be calculated to instil habits of temperance into the minds of their readers. In conclusion, he remarks that some of the witnesses examined by the Commission have suggested that Government should follow the example of Japan in the matter of education, but that Government cannot be expected to saddle itself with the entire burden and responsibility of educating natives.

The same.

12. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 31st March (received on the 11th April) 1902, says that although Bishop Welldon has been defeated in his attempt to induce the Government of India to introduce the Bible into Government schools and colleges in this country, there are lakhs of Welldons in Great Britain and other European countries ready to take up his suggestion. It may be added that since the introduction of higher education into India similar suggestions have from time to time been made; but that the same have never been approved of by the British Parliament. Nevertheless, selfish Christian Missionaries and Anglo-Indian officers of a religious turn of mind are always devising means to introduce the Bible throughout the length and breadth of the country. Some of these worthies keep their secret locked up in their breasts, but others, more headstrong, make it known to the public with a flourish of trumpets. The Hon'ble Mr. Smeaton is one of the latter individuals, and at the last anniversary of the India Sunday School Union endorsed Bishop Welldon's suggestion and found fault with Government for having failed to introduce the Bible into public schools and colleges. He did not, however, attempt to prove that the book named was the only means of attaining salvation. After remarking that so far Christian divines have failed to prove this, the Editor says that suggestions like the one under reference are not viewed with favour by the people. Besides, the adoption of Mr. Smeaton's recommendation is not likely to lead to any good, seeing that the moral condition of Europe, the stronghold of the Bible, is anything but satisfactory. It may be added that the doctrine of the Trinity has led to most of the Christian countries being ruled conjointly by kings, ministers and the people, and that this principle of Government has also found its way to India. Indeed, it is for the acceptance thereof by Government that the National Congress has been labouring for years past. And the adoption of Mr. Smeaton's suggestion, in case the Bible is interpreted in Indian schools

A suggestion to introduce the Bible into public schools and colleges.

and colleges in the superficial way in which it is being done in Europe, would bring the entire native community into the Congress camp. In such a case, observes the Editor, Government will be confronted with serious difficulty, especially if the people of India should, like the Irish, begin to dream of independence.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the *Zemindars.*

13. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 29th March (received on the 14th April) 1902, publishes a communication from Sultán Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 26 of the Selections No. 12), says that it will be unanimously admitted that as a body the *Zemindárs* are not in easy circumstances. At the same time, however, it must be conceded that agriculture is now in a more flourishing and progressive condition than it used to be in former years. Peace and liberty, the existence of which is of the greatest importance for the successful prosecution of agricultural and commercial pursuits, are now enjoyed by India in a measure undreamt of under former Governments. The easy means of communication, moreover, available at present were unknown in pre-British days, when agricultural produce could not be transported from one *iláka* to another for purposes of trade. The writer further remarks that while during former *régimes* large tracts even of superior land in the Punjab used to lie fallow, cultivable lands have now so risen in value that people who once looked down upon agriculture, are anxious to invest their money in, land. Lands which at one time were considered dear at Rs. 2 per acre are now taken in mortgage at Rs. 100 an acre. It may be added that the prevailing high prices of food-grains, although they may be a calamity to the common people, bode good to the *Zemindárs*. After remarking that the demand for grain in the Punjab is so large that even standing crops can be disposed of, and that produce from land is generally abundant, the correspondent observes that the progress made by India in agriculture is due—

(*a*) to better communications ;

(*b*) to an increase in the population of the country ; and

(*c*) to the people having, owing to (*a*) and (*b*), begun to regard land as a good investment.

He, however, admits that in spite of what has been said above the *Zemindárs*, as a body, are not in easy circumstances. For the last few years, he adds, a controversy has been going on about the condition of the gricultural classes, and diverse reasons have been put forward to account for the poverty of the tiller of the soil. Among others it is alleged that the said poverty is due to—

(1) an over-assessment of the land revenue ;

(2) the rigorous character of the rules of assessment ;

(3) periodical settlements ; and

(4) the collection of the revenue in cash.

The writer has thoroughly considered the foregoing four causes and is of opinion that they constitute a cowardly attempt at laying the entire the blame for the present wretched condition of the *Zemindárs* at the door of Government. He admits that the agriculturists a sickly body ; but he denies that their disease is an incurable one or that its existence is ascribable to Government. On the contrary, he holds that the evil is the result of indifference on the part of the *Zamindárs* themselves.

(g)—*Postal Matters.*

The rate of commission on money orders for Rs. 15 and Rs. 30.

14. "A postal official" writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, says that in reducing to one anna the commission on money orders for sums not exceeding Rs. 5 the Postal authorities seem to have overlooked one thing. The rate of commission (Re. 0-4-0) on a money order for Rs. 15 has not been changed ; but the payment thereof cannot be enforced, for, by remitting the amount by two money orders of Rs. 10 and Rs. 5 each, one can save one anna. A similar saving can be effected by remitting Rs. 30 in the same way.

The same.

15. One Muhammad Waháb-ud-dín, Náib Muharrir, Sarháli (?) Thána, writing to the same paper, makes similar remarks, and says that the anomaly is likely to increase the work in post offices.

(h)—*Miscellaneous.*

The plague.

16. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, says that the largest number of deaths from the bubonic plague have occurred during the last three months, and that the increase has almost entirely taken place in the Punjab. It is true that the disease has broken out in all parts of India, still it has claimed the largest number of victims in the Punjab. The Editor then remarks that the question naturally arises if this increase in the number of deaths from plague is due to the disease having gained in virulence or to some other cause. In his opinion the evil is due to Government having changed its policy and left the people to shift for themselves. The authorities, it may be added, have decided to help the people with bare advice and will do nothing to enforce compliance. Indeed, in his recent speech at Jullundur Sir Charles Rivaz had to admit this in so many words. It is, therefore, clear that although convinced of the excellence of its plague administration Government has abandoned the same for fear of alienating the sympathies of the people. After disputing the correctness of this view, the Editor says that it cannot be deemed that there have been plague riots in all parts of the country. No one, however, knows better than Government that these disturbances were invariably due to the dishonest and immoral practices of subordinate plague officials and not to any opposition to the sanitary measures adopted by Government. It is an open secret that the said officials looted the people and dishonoured their females. Hundreds of complaints on the subject were published in newspapers, and it was only when Government took no notice of the same that the people took the law into their own hands. It is also an admitted fact that it was only ignorant and

illiterate persons who misconstrued the motives of Government and represented the plague administration to be an engine of oppression. In these circumstances Government ought to have taken pity on the people, for no one would leave off administering a medicine to his child owing to its biting his hands when asked to swallow the medicine. The Editor then goes on to say that the residents of India need not abandon all hope; for, although Government has changed its plague policy, still it is solicitous for the welfare of its weak and dumb native subjects. After quoting an extract from Sir Charles Rivaz's aforesaid speech in support of this, he advises his fellow-countrymen to take advantage of the sympathetic attitude of the authorities, and alleges that he has received several communications which go to show that the people have begun to value the old plague measures.

17. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th April 1902, also publishes similar remarks,

The same.

18. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 10th April 1902:—

The same.

"Government has replaced its King Stork policy by that of King Log. Is there no golden mean between the "No choice, *all* compulsion," of King Stork, and the "Do *whatever* you like," of King Log? We fear, exaggerated reports of the silly attitude of suspicion and distrust towards the authorities of the lowest and most ignorant section of the masses have reached the Government. It is, no doubt, true that the good intentions of the Government have been misunderstood, and most malignant motives have been imputed to it by chamárs, sweepers and people of that class. Inoculation is believed by many of them to be a method adopted by the Sarkár to reduce the number of Hindús and Musalmáns, who in the last census (according to these wiseacres) were found to vastly outnumber the Native Christian and European population. Such ridiculous theories only excite the laughter of the vast majority of the population. It is not unlikely that the malignant rumours have been set in circulation by mischievous idiots of the type of the Municipal Commissioner of Jullundur District whose wicked and ingeneous ruse to alarm the authorities we mentioned in a recent issue. Whatever the origin and nature of the reports, we cannot imagine that Government would take them into account in shaping its policy. The present unwillingness of the authorities, however, to interfere with the dangerous practices of the most gullible and superstitious classes points to the fact that those in power have allowed themselves to be influenced by the blind fears and suspicions of these folk."

19. Writing about the outbreak of the bubonic plague in Lahore, the same paper remarks as follows:—

The same.

"What is the good of disinfecting a house in which a case has taken place when fugitives from the stricken towns and villages are coming in daily by rail and road? Where is the harm if Lahoris were to request Government to make the thorough disinfection of the luggage and person of every one coming to Lahore from infected places compulsory? We do not think any reasonable person would object to this measure. Of course the fumigation of clothes, &c., and a bath in a disinfecting solution would entail some delay and inconvenience to visitors; but no right-minded citizen should cry against

this little trouble undergone for the good of the community. Quarantine would be far more useful, but the time has passed for this method being employed with effect. The plague is now everywhere and the cordon and quarantine have become impracticable."

The same.

20. A Chaudhri Karam Iláhi, writing to the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, says that on the evening of the 3rd idem a voice was heard proceeding from inside the Shah Doula Shrine at Gujrát (Punjab), and was to the effect that whosoever drank water from the well attached to the said shrine would never be attacked by plague. The Chaudhri adds that there is not a single Hindu or Musalmán in Gujrát who has not obeyed the voice, nay water from the said well is being transported to distant places.

The best way to commemorate the King-Emperor's Coronation.

21. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, invites suggestions as to what would be the best way, from the native point of view, for Government to commemorate the King-Emperor's Coronation. The communications received on the subject will be published in the *Akhbár*, after which subscribers will be supplied with "voting papers" and requested to declare which of the suggestions they consider to be the best. The gentleman who secures the largest number of votes will receive as prize a pound bearing the impress of His Majesty's face.

The coming Delhi Darbár.

22. The same paper invites communications on the following subject:—"What will the proclamation made at the Delhi Darbár contain?" Those whose guesses turn out to be correct in any way will receive each a "Coronation watch" specially ordered by the Editor from England.

The same.

23. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th April 1902, says that while preparations for the coming Coronation Darbár are proceeding apace at Delhi, the bubonic plague is reported to have broken out in the ancient capital of India. It is, however, to be hoped that the disease will have been stamped out of the city by the end of the current year. In case, however, this hope is not realized, the Editor would suggest the holding of the Darbár on the 1st of October next instead of on the opening day of 1903. But if this is also found to be impracticable he would request the Government to issue a notification to the effect that all persons going to Delhi on the occasion in question should first get themselves inoculated with the plague serum.

Editors of Vernacular newspapers and Native States.

24. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th April 1902, alleges that some of the Editors of Vernacular newspapers are in the habit of visiting Native States uninvited. In case these worthies are hospitably treated they publish eulogistic articles landing State officials to the skies. Should they, however, be given nothing, they begin to write against the said officials in their newspapers. Indeed, some of the Editors in question are so hard to please and so devoid of all feeling of shame that they do not hesitate to run down a State from which they have been receiving help through life, but which forgets to

propitiate them even on one occasion. The Editor then enquires what claims native journalists have on feudatory States and in return for what services they look for reward from the latter. He exhorts Vernacular newspapers to give up writing against Native States from motives of enmity or spite, and advises them to follow in the woke of their English contemporaries.

A complaint in connection with the Easter holidays.

25. The *Sidlkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th April 1902, says that the newspapers throughout the country are full of complaints that quite a number of public offices were not closed for the Easter holidays. After remarking that according to the *Bengáli* the office of the Inspector-General of Prisons, Bengal, was not closed during the said holidays, the Editor expresses surprise that officers of a certain type should disobey Government by not observing gazetted holidays.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—24-4-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 17.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 26th April 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. One Faqír Syad Muhammad Ali Hassan of Delhi writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1902, says that the Nawab of Baháwalpur, who is a descendant of the Abbasis, could more appropriately than the Sultán of Turkey, who is not of Quraish extraction, be called the Caliph of Indian Musalmáns. The writer then exhorts the Nawáb to subscribe liberally towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund.

The same.

2. A correspondent writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th April 1902, expresses regret at the indifference displayed by the Muhammadan residents of Oudh in connection with the proposed Hedjaz Railway. He especially deplores the attitude of the English-speaking Musalmáns towards the project, and alleges that the said worthies take no interest in religious undertakings. He then exhorts his co-religionists in Oudh, especially the Talukdárs among them, to realise their duty in the matter and give money for the railway in question.

3. The same paper, of the 14th and 18th April 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:— The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
	Amount already acknowledged	8,558	3	8
1.	Received through Munshi Muhammad Israil Khan, Inspector, Salt Department, Gorakhpur ...	5	0	0
2.	Munshi Abdur Rahmán, of Mauza Shahpur Bhadol, Patna District ...	3	12	0
3.	Mián Akbar Shah, Contractor, Upper Burma ...	8	0	0
4.	Dr. Basharat Ahmad, Assistant Surgeon, on Plague Duty at Shakargarh ...	1	4	0
5.	Bábu Rukan-ud-dín, Commissariat Department, Ambala ...	1	0	0
6.	Received through Munshi Abdul Hamíd, Sergeant, Railway Police, Lahore ...	3	0	0
7.	Munshi Sa'id-uz-Zamán, M. A. O. College, Aligarh ...	1	0	0
8.	Sardár Dín Muhammad Khán, Honorary Magistrate, Choti, Dera Gházi Khan District ...	100	0	0
9.	Received through Munshi Abdul Azíz, Municipal Store-keeper, Simla ...	7	2	0
10.	Received through Munshi Hasan-ul-Manzur, Indore ...	3	0	0
11.	Munshi Siraj-ud-Dín, Assistant Station Master, Warwarah (?) ...	2	0	0
12.	Received through Háfiz Abdur Rahmán, Record-keeper, Kángra ...	3	8	0
13.	Munshi Muhammad Ismail Khán, Overseer, Muktesar, Ferozepore District ...	1	0	0
14.	Received through Munshi Abdur Rahím Copyist, Sub-Judge's Office, Bandah ...	5	0	0
15.	Mirza Muhammad Agha Khán, Kachor, Sonkhara State ...	5	0	0
16.	Received through Hakím Nematullah, of Bahrámpur, Gurdáspur District ...	21	0	3
17.	Dr. Siráj-ud-dín Ahmad, Amritsar ...	4	0	0
18.	Sayad Nazar Hassan, Merchant, Mustafa-abad, Saran District ...	2	0	0
19.	Syad Jamáyat Ali Shah, Amritsar ...	13	0	0
20.	Munshi Muhammad Ibrahím, Gwalior ...	5	0	0
21.	Munshi Razi-ud-dín, Gwalior ...	1	0	0
22.	Munshi Tafazzul Husain, Gwalior ...	1	0	0
23.	Mistri Imám-ud-dín, Sujánpur ...	1	0	0
24.	Received through Muzaffar Ali Khán, Clerk, Abdur Rahím Khán, Vakíl, Bulandshahr ...	8	0	0
25.	Received through Kázi Muhammad Sami, Rais, Baghpat, Meerut District ...	50	0	0
	Total ...	8,813	13	11

4. The *Waṭan* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1902, also acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 11th April	...	618	3	0
1. Received through Munshi Sajjad Husain, Vakil, Bárabanki	...	25	0	0
2. Syad Faiz-ul-Hasan	...	5	0	0
3. Received through Maulvi Anwar Husain, of Delhi	...	15	0	0
4. Syad Abdul Ghani, Mhow	...	8	3	0
5. Received through Maulvi Wahid Bakhsh, of Pánipat	...	4	1	0
6. Received through Syad Muhammad Ibrahim, of Páil	...	3	8	0
7. Bábu Muhammad Ismail, Overseer, Muktsar	...	1	4	0
Total	...	680	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	4,480	8	10

(b)—Home.

5. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 19th April 1902, says that Mr. Digby's "*Prosperous*" *British India* has drawn the attention of the British public to the fact that India is a very poor country and is growing still poorer from day to day. Mr. Digby blames British rule for this state of affairs, and the accusation has been echoed in Parliament by Mr. Caine. Lord George Hamilton has sought to refute the charge by making in the Commons a formal declaration to the effect that Hindústán is not poorer now than she was twenty years ago, and that Government's income from the land revenue and other taxes is daily on the increase. It must, however, be added that His Lordship has not been able to substantiate his statements as the author of the aforesaid book has done *his*. After referring to Mr. Digby's contentions, the Editor observes that those who have an opportunity of seeing the *zamíndárs* and other residents of Indian villages at their homes will unhesitatingly admit that this country is extremely poor. He adds that the foregoing declaration by Lord George Hamilton may carry some weight with Europeans, but that, as a matter of fact, an increase in Government's income from taxation does not mean that India is a rich country. Every Indian official—whether European or native—whose duty it is to assess or collect taxes knows full well that if he wishes to remain in the service he should realize from the people as much money as he can. Perhaps highly-placed officers of Government do not know to what

The poverty of India.

extreme measures Tahsíldárs and Lambardárs resort in the collection of the land revenue. But no; only recently it was brought to the notice of Government that during the last famine even the cooking pans, spinning wheels, grind-stones, &c., owned by the *samindárs* of Guzerát were attached in order to ensure the recovery of the demand. The Editor then goes on to say that the conflicting contentions put forward by Mr. Digby and Lord George Hamilton prompted Mr. Stead, of the *Review of Reviews*, to invite the opinions of retired Anglo-Indian officials on the point at issue. The majority of these gentlemen have declared the statements made in "*Prosperous*" *British India* to be exaggerated and mistaken, while some endorse Mr. Digby's views. Among the latter is Mr. Thorburn, the late Financial Commissioner in the Punjab, who recently delivered a lecture on the poverty of India before the Fabian Society, London. The Editor concludes by publishing the substance of this lecture.

III.—Native States.

Immoral practices of Native Chiefs.

6. Pandit Gopi Náth, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th, 17th, 18th and 22nd April 1902, says that if the veil were lifted off the mysteries of the palaces of Native Chiefs the sight would prove a shocking one. It is very seldom that these mysteries are laid bare, and very few persons come to know of them; while the revelation has no terrors for the Chiefs. The Pandit adds that, although Indian Princes ape Europeans in the matter of eating, dressing, &c., they leave alone the most eminent virtue to be found in their prototypes. No European, of howsoever high a social position, can or does take unto himself more than one wife, albeit monogamy is also a prolific source of hundreds of scandals. The rulers of Feudatory States, however, can marry as many women as they choose, nay, some of them do not know how many wives they have. To make matters worse, they possess a number of slave girls and concubines. After alleging that a certain State official is said to have acquired considerable influence and wealth by pandering to the sensual propensities of his master, the writer goes on to say that the chief cause of the mysterious and murderous doings in the palaces of Natives Chiefs is the presence therein of innumerable young women. On the one hand, these members of the female sex fare well and live a life of idleness; and on the other their lot is such that the majority of them are alone with their husbands but once and the rest of their days are those of longing and craving. Indeed they would willingly change places with the poorest women on the face of the earth, in order to be always with their husbands. Pandit Gopi Náth further remarks that decency forbids him to lay before his readers a description of what takes place in the palaces aforesaid. He adds that on one occasion he was told by a certain friend of his that numbers of women were to be seen wandering about these palaces and that they looked so hungry as to excite one's pity. On his enquiring if they were not supplied with food, he was informed that they hungered after men, and that if one were to drop down amongst them from the sky they would tear him limb from limb. The Pandit then observes

that Indian Princes should try to realize that when their own sexual appetite is so keen that it lets them know no rest in spite of their being burdened with State work, the case of their numberless wives, who are still more intoxicated with youth, must be pitiable in the extreme. He understands that so strict and unreasonable a watch is kept on the women in question that they hit on unheard of methods in order to gratify their carnal passions. The writer dare not explain these methods, as this would not only amount to in decency but would also render him liable to a prosecution for obscene writing. Such ill-used women, he adds, can only curse their nominal husbands, who, although they may be Rájás and Nawábs in the eyes of the world, are only merciless and mean rascals to their wives. He then goes on to say that rulers of Feudatory States commit murders in order to get possession of women in an illegal manner. Some of the said Princes are such devils that, not content with the daughters of *Raises* given to them in marriage, they marry by force all the girls in their territories who may be reputed for their beauty. Again, their spies, who are always scrutinizing the females of the people, also carry to them reports of the beauty of women whom the law forbids them to marry. In such cases the guardians of the women concerned are put to death, and widowed wives or orphaned daughters are got hold of without further difficulty. It may be mentioned here that a certain Chief is said to have been done to death by means of wine, of which he was very fond, for having outraged, or attempted to outrage, a female member of the family of a very highly-placed official of his. Pandit Gopi Nath then gives an account of how State officials of a certain type get their masters entangled in the meshes of good-looking prostitutes, and how they try to gain their personal ends through these women. He adds that, because of a prostitute, the ruler of a certain State and his brother come to conceive mortal hatred for each other. He wishes to mention here that the relations between Native Chiefs and their heirs-apparent or brothers are usually so strained that the former thirst for the latter's blood. Again, both have in their employ selfish persons, who contrive to create estrangement between their masters and even their nearest relations. It may be added that Indian Princes, who, thanks to the British Government, have nothing to fear from external foes, have to spend a great deal of their time and money in protecting themselves against their brothers, sons, &c. In conclusion, the writer states how the heir-apparent of a certain Chief tried to bring about his father's death by means of charms and incantations.

The President of the Patiála Council of Regency.

7. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1902, reports that Sardár Gurmukh Singh, President of the Regency Council, Patiála, has been granted a title and a *khillat* in recognition of the long and meritorious services rendered by him to the State. There can be no doubt, adds the Editor, that the Sardár is an able and keen-witted official and possesses a special aptitude for solving difficulties. The only complaint made against him is that he objects to set eyes on a Muhammadan till after 10 A.M. The Editor has no personal knowledge of this and can only say that if the complaint is true the Sardár should mend his ways, seeing that he is the virtual ruler of Patiála and should, therefore, look on all classes of the State subjects with an equal eye.

8. A correspondent of the *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th April 1902, says that the *Punjab Samáchar* which was extremely hostile to the Rája of Suket in 1900, has of late been singing His Highness' praises. There must, he adds, be some reason for the change of front on the part of the said paper, and it is only fair that the same should be made public. The writer then reproduces from the *Samáchar* of the 4th August 1900 an article inveighing against the Ruler of Suket.

Suket affairs.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

9. A correspondent of the *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 14th April 1902, in commenting on the *Curzon Gazette's* suggestion that the next meeting of the Nudwat-ul-Ulema should be held at Delhi on the occasion of the coming Imperial Assemblage (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 14), remarks that the consent of the leading Musalmán residents of Amritsar, where the said meeting is fixed to be held, should first be obtained. He adds that the Muhammadan Educational Conference commences its sittings at Delhi on the 29th December next, and that as several followers of the Prophet would like to participate in the deliberations of both the Nudwa and the Conference, it is undesirable that both should be held on the same date. It is also advisable that the meetings of the Nudwa should not be held after the Assemblage ; for very few persons from the *Mufassil* would care to stay at Delhi after the said function was over. The only dates, therefore, on which the Association could possibly hold its sittings would be the 26th, 27th and 28th December. In other words, those who wish to attend the meetings of both societies and to witness the Darbár will have to stay at Delhi for about two weeks. As, however, the majority of the supporters of both movements are drawn from the middle classes, and living in the said city is certain to be very expensive, they cannot be expected to undergo the necessary expense. If, however, the Editor of the *Curzon Gazette* and his friends can manage to entertain the delegates for a fortnight they are welcome to invite the Nudwat-ul-Ulema to hold its next session at Delhi. The Editor further remarks that so far the influential orthodox Muhammadans of the aforesaid city have not taken any marked interest in the movement, and that it was for this reason that the college established by the Nudwa was not located at Delhi, although a resolution to this effect had been adopted at Meerut. He is also of opinion that in case the *Gazette's* suggestion is adopted steps should be taken to prevent the local opponents of the Nudwa from exhibiting their opposition in an unseemly manner.

The Nudwat-ul-Ulema.

10. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th April 1902, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 12 of the Selections No. 15), says that Colonel Jawála Singh and Munshi Bhola Singh have so looted the Jalau Fund that it has now not a single penny to its credit. It may be added that the Colonel, who at first would not touch even the *Karáh* offered at the Golden Temple, has thrown all his scruples to the winds and is misappropriating Temple money to his heart's content. Nay, even his children are in the habit

Complaint against the Manager, Golden Temple, Amritsar.

of pocketing pice, &c., offered at the Temple. After remarking that the Colonel owes his dignity and wealth entirely to his position as Manager of the Golden Temple, and that all his private expenses come out of the Temple funds, the Editor makes a similar allegation regarding Munshi Bhola Singh, and complains that the salary paid to this worthy is far higher than that given to former Munshis. He then alleges that the Manager has sealed the lips of the *Pujáris* by enhancing the emoluments of their offices; and enquires what Munshi Bhola Singh and *Pujári* Mohan Singh did in connection with the recent visit to Amritsar of Sir Mackworth Young to deserve a reward of Rs. 200 and Rs. 100 each. The Editor is afraid that Sardár Jawála Singh, Bhola Singh and Mohan Singh have connived together to embezzle Temple money, and calls upon the Sikhs to request the Deputy Commissioner to have the Temple accounts overhauled.

The same.

11. The same paper reports that a few days back some firewood and dried dung-cakes were discovered in the Jalau-khána attached to the Golden Temple. The general impression, adds the Editor, is that the said articles had been secreted in the Jalau-khána with the object of setting fire to it. The Deputy Commissioner would, therefore, do well to look into the matter, for both Colonel Jawála Singh and Bhai Bhola Singh, having been accused of embezzlement in connection with the Jalau Fund, it is possible that they may set fire to the said building in order the destroy the proofs of their guilt.

The same.

12. The same paper reiterates its suggestion regarding the appointment of Sardár Jewan Singh, Mán, a Rais and Honorary Magistrate at Amritsar, to the post of Manager, Golden Temple (*vide* paragraph 12 of the Selections No. 15), and says that had a man of the Sardár's qualifications been the holder of the post, so many complaints would not have been rife in connection with the management of the Temple.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

13. A correspondent of the same paper adverting to the doings of Paras Rám, Agent of *Mahant* Narinjan Dás, says that the man owns an extravagantly furnished *Kothi* which has not its like in Amritsar. Again, Fakír Jowála Dás, who has charge of the *Kothi*, associates with a number of roughs, and all of them are a terror to the poor and respectable women residing in the neighbourhood. The correspondent then suggests that the officials concerned should bring the conduct of immoral *Mahants* to the notice of the authorities and get the *Jágirs* enjoyed by the said libertines resumed. After referring to the objectionable doings of Mahant Sant Dás of Cholonwála (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 14), he alleges that the said worthy not only wastes all the income from his *Jágir* in drinking and dissipation, but has also borrowed thousands of rupees from a *Sáhukár* of Mauza Sarháli for the same purpose. The writer further alleges that Mahant Moti Rám of the Vahekh Har (?) has been turned out of his *Akhára* for his bad character. He then praises Mahant Budh Parkásh of the Sagoldon (?) *Akhára*, and the present Mahant of the Kánshiwála *Akhára* for leading moral and examplary lives. As for Mahant Hira Dás, residing in the Ghee Mandi, he is a debauchee and has

mortgaged the *Akhára* building for Rs. 9,500, to be spent in pursuits of pleasure. The Agent of the Mahant living in the Sultánwind quarters is also a man of immoral character. The writer concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

(b)—Police.

Chaudhri Hákim Ali, Inspector of Police, Siálkot City.

14. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th March (received on the 23rd April) 1902, says that on the outbreak of the bubonic plague in Siálkot quite a number of the residents locked their houses and migrated to other places. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that, thanks to Chaudhri Hákim Ali, the local Police Inspector, so far not a single case of theft has occurred in these houses. Indeed, since the transfer of the said official to Siálkot there has been a marked decrease in crimes of all descriptions in the city, and the local public has come to repose thorough confidence in him. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the Chaudhri will not be removed from Siálkot except on promotion.

A retired Police Officer honoured.

15. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1902, says that the popularity won by Khán Sáhib Sondhi Khán, a retired Assistant District Superintendent of Police, falls to the lot of only very few officials. After publishing a brief history of the Khán Sáhib's services the Editor expresses gratification at that gentleman's appointment as an Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner at Amritsar. He adds that Amritsar deserves to be congratulated on having secured such an impartial and justice-loving Magistrate.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Local Self Government and natives.

16. The *Gulzár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th April 1902, remarks that Municipalities were established by Government for the good of the people. It is, however to be regretted that the concession has been made too soon, and that natives are as yet unfit to profit thereby. The Editor wishes to mention here that it is not to be supposed that Government is unable to carry on the work entrusted to Municipal Committees; but that it conferred Local Self-Government on the people under the impression that they would be better able to look after the sanitation of their towns, &c. Its expectations in this respect have, however, been falsified; and the reason for this is that incompetent persons are elected to serve on the Committees. Indeed, the majority of these worthies are illiterate men, wholly ignorant of the duties of a Municipal Commissioner and incapable of taking an intelligent part in the meetings of Municipalities. The Editor then refers to the approaching Municipal election at Lahore, and says that certain illiterate persons have again offered themselves as candidates. He also exhorts the Lahoris to avoid the disgrace of electing ignorant persons to serve on their Municipality.

The imposition of a house-tax in Delhi.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th April 1902, alleges that the Local Government's approval of the imposition of a house-tax in Delhi has again created a stir among all classes of the residents of that

city. He adds that the disappointing result of the agitation started in connection with the tax has led to the establishment of a Rate-payers' Association in Delhi with the object of relieving the people of the burden of (unnecessary) Municipal taxes.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary, Amritsar Municipality.

18. A correspondent writing to the *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th April 1902, says that the charges preferred by it against Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Local Municipality, are serious enough in all conscience. The said official has, however, been confirmed in his appointment and given an increase of pay without the truth or otherwise of these charges having been ascertained. None of the local Municipal Commissioners objected to Mr. Gardener's confirmation, while the only one who protested against the Secretary being given promotion was "mesmerised" into silence in no time. The writer is afraid that the present Secretary of the Amritsar Municipality must be lost to all sense of shame and honour, otherwise that gentleman would haved established his innocence by prosecuting the Editor. He also regrets that nothing should have come of the accusations preferred by the *Gazette* against the Manager of the Golden Temple.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

19. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of the Selections No. 16), draws the attention of the Universities Commission to the following matters:—

"The remedy (for improving the knowledge of English of candidates for the Entrance Examination) must, if it is to be applied at all, be applied at the roof.

"*Firstly*—You must reduce the pressure of subjects in the Primary Department. In the Punjab, Persian must be omitted from the curriculum of studies of the Primary Department, and a better paid class of teachers should be provided for imparting instruction in English.

"*Secondly*.—You must change the English Primer. The stupid attempt of teaching English with the aid of a Primer *which gives the pronunciation of English words in Urdu* must be given up. We should think that sufficient patronage has, up to now, been extended to an *ex*-Director of Public Instruction at the cost of the Punjabi infant, and it is time that the interests of sound instruction in English should prevail over the interests of an *ex*-official. We implore the members of the Commission to send for a copy of this book and see what a slovenly method teaching of English it implies and involves.

"*Thirdly*.—The teaching of History and Geography ought to be put on a more intelligent basis and the student's memory ought to be relieved a little. The examination in these subjects should test a candidate's general knowledge more than of particular dates, events, &c.

"*Fourthly.*—The system of teaching English in the colleges ought to be reformed. The courses should be few and the notes on them far between. More stress should be laid in the colleges on composition and translation, and a good deal should be left to the student's own effort. The duty of correcting translations from English into vernacular must be left exclusively to the Indian Professors.

Medical Examinations.

"As laymen we cannot make any weighty remarks upon the subject of medical studies and medical examinations, but there is one thing connected with the medical examinations against which we can enter a strong protest without laying ourselves open to the charge of treading upon forbidden ground or discussing subjects upon which only professional experts can pronounce. The Punjab University Medical Examinations have, of late, been fixed to be held in June instead of April which used to be the time for examination before. Now, May and June being the hottest months in Lahore, it is extremely cruel to expect students to work hard then. But medical examinations being perhaps the most difficult of all professional examinations the students must work hard, if they are to pass. The result can be better imagined than described.

"May we ask the Commission to enquire into the reason of this change? Was this change introduced in the interests of the students? We unhesitatingly say, no. This change is only another instance of the best interests of the students being sacrificed in India to the convenience and comfort of the European Professor. The European Professors in the Medical College wanted to go to the hills towards the end of June for a consecutively long period of three months and a half. With the examinations being held in April this could not be done. Consequently this change was introduced. A similar change was proposed on the Arts side also, and by the same class of Professors, but here wiser counsels prevailed and the Head of the Department stepped in to lay his foot on the contemplated cruelty. But the case is different with the Medical Faculty. So far as the Medical College is concerned, the Faculty reigns supreme in the University and nobody dare interfere."

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government and the *zamindárs*.

20. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th April 1902, publishes a communication from Sultán Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 16), suggests that Government should endeavour to remove the existing obstacles in the way of an advancement in agriculture and commerce, between which a close relationship is springing up. The adoption of this suggestion, he alleges, would enable the *zamindárs* to profit by the prevailing high prices of food-grains, and sell the produce of their lands to the best advantage to themselves. The writer adds that the tariff imposed should be moderate and subservient to trade and commerce. Government should also abstain from breaking its word with the agriculturists for the sake of gain (? from demanding land revenue at

high rates) on occasions of bumper harvests, and remit or suspend the payment of the revenue whenever there is a failure of crops through causes beyond the power of man. It may be mentioned that such concessions which are the only ones the authorities can reasonably be asked to make in favour of the tillers of the soil are granted whenever necessary. The correspondent then endeavours to prove that it is wrong to say that the land revenue is over-assessed; that the rules regarding the assessment thereof are of a rigorous character; that the collection of the revenue in cash, combined with periodical settlements, is at the bottom of the poverty of the *zamíndárs*; and that the manner in which the demand is realized is anything but satisfactory. He further remarks that were Tahsíldárs honest and strong officials they could serve as interpreters between the ryat and Government, and help in the solution of the difficulties of the agriculturists. In conclusion, he remarks that it is not the Tahsíl officials alone who fleece the *zamíndárs*, but that the *Amlás* of the Civil and Criminal Courts also suck the life-blood of the luckless individuals in question.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

21. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), of the 28th March (received on the 18th April) 1902, says that it is very desirable that steps should be taken to put an end to the inconvenience which third class passengers now experience in purchasing their tickets. The easiest way, adds the Editor, to gain this end is that the sale of tickets should commence at least an hour before the arrival of a train.

The same.

22. The same paper, of 12th (received on the 23rd) April 1902, says that the train which leaves Wazírabad for Siálkot at 6-45 P.M. does not stop at flag stations, although there are always a number of passengers at each of these stations. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the train should stop at each flag station, if even for two minutes, and thereby remove the inconvenience now felt by the travelling public.

The same.

23. The *Gulzár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th April 1902, publishes a communication, the writer of which alleges that a few days back the carriage for female passengers in the train which runs from Mooltan to Lahore at night was entered by one or two men at two or three stations. As, however, the occupants of the carriage happened to be rather large in number the intruders could not lift the luggage or commit any other offence. It may be added that another man travelled in the said carriage for some distance in women's clothes; but that as one of the female passengers expressed doubt as to his sex the man left the train at the nearest station. The correspondent then dwells on the necessity of putting an end to this state of affairs, and suggests that the most effectual way to gain the object would be to enlist women in the Secret Police, and require them to travel in carriages for females, especially at night, in order to apprehend intruders of the above description. The money required to pay such members of the said Police force could, if necessary, be found by charging higher rates of fare from female passengers.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Tiger-shooting by Viceroys.

24. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1902, adverting to the death of a *shikári* during a tiger-hunt by the Viceroy at Hyderabad, remarks as follows:—

"The Viceroy at once stopped the shoot, but we wonder if the incident will have more than a temporary impression on His Excellency's mind as the case of a man (though only a poor native Indian) practically killing himself to provide His Excellency with a momentary pleasure.

"The fashionable tiger-shooting provided by Native Princes for high British officials is more a matter of pleasure and fun than a serious business, in which if there be any risk it appertains to the function performed by the *shikáris*, the credit of whose bravery is appropriated by the gentlemen who perform the mechanical act of shooting and fill the bags. It is the *shikáris* who chase up the tigers from their retreats, often coming to dangerous propinquity with them—as was the case in the Hyderabad instance—while the fashionable shooters aim their guns from a safe distance and provided with all the means of escape in case of a rush on the part of the beast. Indeed, the fact is well known that the tigers provided by Native Princes for Viceregal and other high official shooting parties are often comparatively broken animals let out of their cages in the menagerie for making an end of their inglorious existence under the glorious condition of being killed by white Christian hands and their death recorded in the newspapers. This is the circumstance which explains the fact of so many man-eaters being found within a few miles of populous towns, and by the side of the rail-road, ready to be killed when a Viceroy or some other official of duly exalted rank wishes to have an aim at them. The animals have their glorious end, the officials have their fun, and the Prince gets a toast proposed in the evening's banquet complimenting him on his 'large-hearted hospitality.' The matter has, however, a gruesome aspect when the chances of death to the poor *shikári* are considered. And it appears to us a deplorable, if not a demoralising, thing that a Viceroy out on an official tour should find pleasure in pursuits which are more well suited to the tastes of 'gentlemen at large,' who have nothing to do, than of those whose heads are supposed to be pressed with the cares of State."

Natives selected to attend the King-Emperor's Coronation in London.

25. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th April 1902, says that the 15 natives selected to be present at the King-Emperor's Coronation in London are undoubtedly representative men This, however, does not mean that no other resident of India can lay claim to that position. The Editor adds that apparently Government has tried to select men who enjoy the respect of the public and are entitled to be regarded as representative Indians. And judged by this standard it was essential that a representative of the ruling families in the Phulkián States should also have been selected. It is true that the Rája of Nábha was invited to be present at the Coronation. Being, however, unable to undertake a journey to England, His Highness had to decline the invitation. Some other member of the Phulkián family should, therefore, have been selected; and if it was impracticable to invite the Minor Mahárája of Patiála or the Rája of Jínd, the presence at the Coronation of at least the Kanwar Sáhib of

Patiála should have been considered indispensable, especially because the Phulkián States are not only larger in area and far more powerful than other Native States in the Punjab, but also rendered invaluable services to Government during the Sepoy Mutiny. Again, the personal virtues of the Kanwar have won for him the respect and esteem of the residents of Patiála, while his absence from the State could not have impeded the administration in any way. The Editor also regrets that His Highness Agha Sultán Muhammad Khán, who is one of the most influential leading nobles of the Bombay Presidency and has followers in all parts of the world, should not have been included among the representative Indians selected to be present on the auspicious occasion in question.

The plague.

26. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th April 1902, makes the following remarks in the course of an article headed "The plague and our people":—

"The Government and the plague officers sometimes become impatient of the reluctance of the people to take kindly to inoculation, disinfection and segregation. Many well-meaning Indians, too, sometimes advocate that the people should be whipped and made to adopt these precautionary measures. But the Government and these zealots forget that our men are what they are because of centuries upon centuries passed in darkness, while some of their religious beliefs are responsible for their indifference to the advice of the doctors. The Hindu and the Musalmán both believe that no one can die before his appointed time, and that it is impossible to defeat the will of God. They are therefore unwilling to adopt any measures for the prevention of plague, which in their opinion are unnecessarily irksome and annoying. Apart from the effect of any religious belief, our poorer and ignorant classes are unable to understand how the rats and clothes become infected and carry infection from place to place, and how the wearing of shoes can be a protection against plague. Inoculation is the *bete noire* of the ignorant people. They are ready to believe everything against it, but they will shake their heads if you talk to them in its favour. Inoculation is the surest way to death, says one; the inoculated persons lose their manhood, says another; the doctors inoculate the poor people with one sort of medicine and the rich people with a different medicine, says the third; the Government wants to get rid of the surplus population by means of inoculation, says the fourth. One feels amused when, after hearing an opinion in favour of inoculation, a shopkeeper gravely shakes his head and condemns inoculation. Similar is the dislike which our people bear towards disinfection. The doctors generally give a green color to the mercury lotion in order to help the disinfecting officer to know that every portion of the floor and walls of a house has been disinfected. The green color, however, does not give a pleasing appearance to the disinfected house, and consequently the ordinary folks are perfectly unwilling to submit to disinfection. Only the other day, an oldish man with two children in his arms came to a member of the Plague Committee in a town, and told him that as his wife had not died of plague the medical officer should be prevented from disinfecting his house. The gentleman told him that even if his wife had not died of plague, disinfection would be very useful to him in these days of growing sickness, and that it was with the object of saving him

and his children that the authorities wanted to disinfect his house. 'Sir, the green color and the medicine which they sprinkle on the walls have a very bad smell,' replied the old man. 'The bad smell goes off in a few days,' said the gentleman of the Committee. 'Sir, it will take me a long time to scrape off the green color from the walls and my house would not remain worth living after disinfection,' added the man again. At this, the educated gentleman lost his temper and angrily told the obstinate fellow that he was very foolish and could not understand what was for his good. But this outburst had no effect on his visitor, who quietly put in that he would say good-bye to his home if the doctors were determined to trouble him. And after this he slowly went away leaving the advocate of disinfection in despair."

The same.

27. The *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 18th April 1902, says that the plague having decreased in Ludhiána, several of the residents who had migrated to other places are returning to the city. It is, however, to be feared that if they are allowed to reoccupy their houses without the same having been thoroughly disinfected beforehand, there will be a recrudescence of the disease in Ludhiána. The Editor further suggests that the grain stored in the city should be ordered to be burnt in order to ensure the destruction of the plague bacilli that may be in it. Should this, however, be impracticable the same should not be allowed to be sold unless it has been exposed to the sun for the number of days fixed by the Civil Surgeon. It may be added that the corpse of a *Sádhu* recently buried in a street adjoining the grain market gives out a nauseating stench, and that this may lead to the increase of the plague in Ludhiána. The Editor concludes by calling upon the local Municipality to pay greater attention to the sanitation of the city.

The same.

28. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 18th April 1902, publishes a notice over the signature of Háji Shams-ud-dín, Honorary General Secretary, Anjuman-i-Himáyat i-Islám, Lahore, who says that the cause of India having of late been in the terrible grip of famine and pestilence is the people being in the habit of breaking the commandments of God. After remarking that the bubonic plague has spread to almost all parts of the country and devastated flourishing towns and villages, the Háji regrets that, instead of repenting of their sinful practices, his co-religionists should, contrary to the teachings of their faith, try to elude death by flitting from place to place, and thereby carry the contagion to healthy localities. It is true that Government has revoked its old plague measures owing to the ignorant among "us" having objected to the same, still if the Muhammadans abstained from leaving, or going to, infected places, as is enjoined in the Traditions, they would not only be obeying God and the Prophet, but also conforming to the wishes of the authorities. The Háji then praises Government for its efforts to stamp out the plague, and exhorts the people to co-operate with it in the suppression of the epidemic. He also calls upon the Prophet's followers throughout the Punjab to assemble outside their respective towns and villages, humble themselves before the Almighty and pray to Him to put down the scourge. In conclusion, he remarks that the Anjuman-i-Islámia, Lahore, has fixed the 27th April for the purpose.

The same.

29. Another correspondent of the same paper also writes to a similar effect.

The same.

30. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 14th April 1902, says that the speech delivered by Sir Charles Rivaz at Jullundur on the 28th ultimo deserves to be translated into all the vernacular languages and distributed broadcast in the country. The Editor adds that His Honor is perfectly right in thinking that Government's efforts to stamp out the plague can prove effectual only if the people heartily co-operate with the authorities. He then publishes a translation of the said speech.

The same.

31. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th March (received on the 23rd April 1902, says that natives should follow the example of the English in abstaining from mixing in society or receiving friends when they are suffering from a contagious disease. And were they to leave plague patients severely alone and stop all communication with infected areas much could be done in the way of stamping out the plague. The Editor further suggests that the observance of *sidpa* in connection with the deaths of victims of the plague should also be discontinued, as this leads to the spread of the disease. He concludes by exhorting leaders of native society to give his suggestions their serious consideration.

The same.

32. The *Táj-ul-Akhbár* (Ráwalpindi), of the 19th April 1902, writing about the increase of the bubonic plague in the Punjab, says that the local Municipality now pays more than usual attention to the sanitation of the city. The Editor, however, regrets that so far nothing has been done to put down the sale of decayed vegetables and adulterated milk in the lanes of Ráwalpindi, and calls upon the local Municipal Commissioners to look into the matter.

The same.

33. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Ráwalpindi), of the 15th April 1902, writing about the prevalence of the plague in the Punjab, says that Hakím Ghulám Nabi of Lahore has published three pamphlets in Urdu describing the causes, remedies, &c., of the disease. He has also discovered a specific which has been extensively used and has cured about half the plague patients to whom it was administered. Each phial of the specific is priced at Re. 1; but the Hakím has distributed thousands of these, as well as large numbers of the copies of the aforesaid pamphlet, *gratis*.

A suggestion to recover income tax by instalments.

34. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th April 1902, after reiterating its suggestions regarding the recovery of the income tax by instalments (*vide* paragraph 27 of the Selections No. 51 of 1901), remarks that the facilities enjoyed by Government officials in the matter of the payment of the tax should be extended to traders and others. At present a public servant pays the tax in question by monthly instalments deducted from his salary; and the Editor would suggest that the same mode of payment should be adopted in the case of non-officials, their average monthly incomes being worked out and the amounts payable each month being fixed beforehand.

Government and the Native Press.

35. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th April 1902, says that at one time it was complained that Government did not appreciate the worth of native newspapers. The complaint has, however, long ceased to exist. In the Punjab the late Munshi Díwán Chand, Proprietor of the *Victoria Paper*, Siálkot, was honoured with the title of Rái Sáhib. Again, not long ago the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces paid a visit to the office of the *Oudh Akhbár*. It may be added that in February last Lála Gián Chand, the present Proprietor of the Siálkot newspaper aforesaid, received a certificate from Sir Mackworth Young commending the tone of his paper. The Editor then goes on to say that the Lála owns the oldest and one of the leading newspapers in the Punjab, and that the services rendered by him to both Government and the public deserve recognition at the hands of Sir Charles Rivaz.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—3 5-03—50.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 18.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 3rd May 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Boer War.

1. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiána), of the 23rd April 1902, says that every lover of peace will be gratified to learn that the prolonged and sanguinary war in South Africa is about to end, and that the Boers, who were once drunk with the ambition of bringing the whole of that part of the Dark Continent under their own rule, are showing signs of returning consciousness. Great Britain also seems to be sick of the war, and even those who were once for wiping the entire Boer nation off the face of the earth have changed their opinion. Besides, it is highly desirable that the two brave nations which have been at war for the last 2½ years should live like friends. The Editor then reproduces Reuter's telegrams received during the preceding week regarding the opening of peace negotiations between the combatants.

The same.

2. The *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 18th April 1902, says that certain Boer prisoners have been confined in the Bellary Jail merely because they have refused to give their paroles. The Editor then goes on to say that it is outside his province to decide if the Boers are heroes or cowards, or if they are a nation of good or bad men. All that he has to say concerning them is that the bravery and perseverance displayed by them in fighting for their souls and principles are praiseworthy indeed. He then prays God to grant the followers of the Vedic religion the same perseverance, spiritual strength and love for their principles.

The Hedjáz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 25th and 28th April 1902 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	8,813	13	11
Mián Ghulám Rasúl of Amritsar, Contractor Jammu State	100	0	0
Small subscriptions	133	10	0
Total ...	9,047	7	11

The same.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th April 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 18th April ...	...	680	3	0
Small subscriptions	...	11	10	0
Total	...	691	13	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	4,492	2	10

The same.

5. The *Tahsib i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 26th April 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	538	14	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	31	1	0
Total	...	569	15	0

(b)—Home.

Native Christians and service in the Army

6. The *Nur Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 25th April 1902, says that in many a village in the Punjab are to be found men, who, if they had not embraced Christianity, would have been freely admitted into the Army. It is to be regretted that the change of religion, which does not deprive a man of his hereditary national rights, should stand in the way of his enlistment as a soldier. The Editor invites the attention of the leaders of the Native Christian community to the matter, and calls upon them to memorialize Government to remove the disabilities under which their brethren in faith suffer in regard to service in the Army.

India under British rule.

7. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th April 1902, says that the rulers of a country are always partial to persons of their own nationality, and that history does not furnish a single instance to the contrary. The Editor remarks that India gained in prosperity and happiness during the Victorian era, and expects to make further progress under the King-Emperor. He adds that, since his assumption of the Viceroyalty of India, Lord Curzon has been trying his utmost to better the condition of natives and secure peace and comfort for them. The Editor promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

The new Amir.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th (received on the 25th) April 1902, says that full reports of the new Amir's Coronation and the last *Nauroz* Darbár at Kabul have not been received up to the present. At the same time no disquieting

rumour in that connection has been published. It is clear from this that the function must have passed off peacefully, and that the misgivings felt by a section of the Anglo-Indian Press on the subject were nothing but delusions. The Mullah of Hadda, adds the Editor, was not present at the Darbár; but on the same day he held a large meeting of his disciples and followers in his new home. The *Pioneer* has taken offence at this; and it is not easy to say what it would have said had the Mullah been in Kábul on the Coronation day. As for the *Times* of London, it seems to have taken a vow to treat Afghánistán like Turkey, and will publish nothing pleasant about it. Nay, the Afghán news which appears in it is invariably calculated to lower the Amír in public estimation. This conduct on the part of the "Thunderer" can be accounted for only by the fact that, like Abdul Hamíd, Habíbullah Khán loves his religion and considers it incumbent upon him to obey the commandments of God,—a trait of character which the English Press does not like to see in Asiatic rulers. These newspapers should, however, remember that a man who does not heed God or His commandments is not likely to stand by his friends or engagements. The Editor then goes on to say that Habíbullah Khán's dispraise by the said journals cannot make His Highness hostile to Great Britain. He adds that the Afghán news published by the *Times* is not only of an offensive character but has no truth in it.

III.—Native States.

Immoral practice of Native Chiefs.

9. Pandit Gopi Náth, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 23rd, 24th and 25th April 1902, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 6 of the Selections No. 17), gives particulars of the immoral practices which he says are indulged in by Native Chiefs, and describes the evil results they lead to. The writer says he knows of several Punjab Princes whose health has been utterly ruined by the use of aphrodisiacs administered by native quacks. He gives an account of how a certain Native Prince killed his favourite Begum with his own hand. Her death was ascribed to sudden illness, and she was burnt with due ceremony. The Political Agent was informed of her demise, and Government condoled with the Prince in his bereavement! Pandit Gopi Náth alleges that not long ago a handsome young man in the service of a certain State was put to death for having an intrigue with a wife of his master, the guilty woman also suffering the same punishment.

Suket affairs.

10. The *Ahlúwália Gasette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1902, publishes a communication, in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 6 of the Selections No. 15), reports that Lála Panna Lál, the Officiating Wazír of Suket, who used to write to newspapers against the Commissioner of Jullundur, has had to leave the State in hot haste. The correspondent then complains that a certain Tahsíldár in the State and his son, who is also his Assistant, practise gross oppression on the people and molest women lodged in the lock-up. He adds that Fithu, Nokhu and others, who some time back were outcasted for having committed certain shameless deeds, now enjoy the Rája's favour. Indeed, one of them, Fithu or Gokal, has been

made the spiritual guide of the Tikka against that youth's will, and this has greatly displeased both the State subjects and the relations of Dusht Nikandan Sain. The writer alleges that the worthies in question are busy feathering their own nests and making trouble between the ruler of Suket and his relations.

The young Nawáb of Baháwalpur.

11. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th (received on the 28th) April 1902, says that the young Nawáb of Baháwalpur takes great interest in State affairs, and that credit for this is due to Colonel Grey and Mírza Jindwade Khán. The Editor adds that he has been carefully watching His Highness' doings and will shortly review them. In doing so, however, he will not confine himself to an examination of only one side of the picture, but will try to point out both the good and bad points in the Nawáb's administration. For the present he cannot refrain from praising the ruler of Baháwalpur for his intention of reforming the Judicial service of the State and keeping a sharp eye on the doings of Judicial Officers. That this is so is apparent from the selection of Malik Muhammad Dín to succeed Díwán Dharm Chand in the post of Sub-Judge. The Editor has no doubt that the appointment will have a wholesome effect on the State judiciary.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

12. A Muhammadan correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 25th April 1902, suggests that the best commemoration of the King-Emperor's coming Coronation would be the prohibition of kine-slaughter in India for the requirments of the British soldiers stationed in the country. Should it, however, be considered indispensable to supply beef to these soldiers in preference to mutton, he would suggest that it should be imported from Australia, Canada, &c. Again, should financial considerations stand in the way of the adoption of his suggestion, he would propose an enhancement by one per cent. of the land-revenue collected from the Hindu *zamíndárs*. After remarking that his suggestion does not interfere with the religious liberty enjoyed by Musalmáns and other fellow-subjects of the Hindús, the writer says that India being an agricultural country, the prohibition of kine-slaughter in it would benefit all classes of its people and render it easier for them to feed themselves. It would also lower the price of bullocks and thereby enable even the poor agriculturist to buy these animals and bring waste lands under cultivation, which in its turn would cheapen food-grains in the country. Again, it would have the effect of binding the Hindús—who are twenty crores in number—so closely to the British throne as to dispense with the necessity for garrisoning Hindústán with the soldiers for whose consumption Government requires beef. The correspondent adds that the adoption of his proposal would also pave the way for a reunion of Hindús and Musalmáns, and says that all sensible followers of the Prophet would welcome the proposed change, especially as kine-slaughter forms no part of the Muhammadan religion.

The same.

13. One Pandit Rám Nath, a doctor at Jullundur, writing to the same paper of the 26th April 1902, says that there can be no doubt that the prohibition of kine-slaughter in India would be the best commemoration of the King-Emperor's

Coronation. He adds that all classes of the residents of the country are agreed that the cow is a very useful animal and should not be killed. The writer also states that the poor physique of the present race of natives is the result of milk and *ghi* having become scarce owing to the slaughter of kine.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Golden Temple affairs.

14. The *Akhbárdlia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1902, understands that Sardár Jiwán Singh, Tahsíldár of Amritsar, has been told off to check the accounts of the Golden Temple. There can be no doubt that the Sardár is an able and honest man; still it appears advisable that he should be assisted by some retired Manager who knows all about the Temple. The Editor then suggests that Sardár Arjan Singh, of Chahal, or Sardár Arora Singh, of Nangli Noshehra, should be present at the overhauling of the accounts. He further remarks that it should be ascertained if the expenses incurred by the present Manager in connection with the various Gurdwáras, the expounding of the Granth, &c., are sanctioned by precedent, and if all the articles made over to him by his predecessor are in stock.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

15. The same paper publishes a communication, the writer of which, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 13 of the Selections No. 17) alleges that Paras Rám, Agent of Mahant Narinjan Dás, has an intrigue with a certain female resident of the Teliánwála lane, Namak Mandi, Amritsar, and that this woman visits him every day at a house hired by him for the purpose. The writer adds that this man has dishonoured and looted the daughters and daughters-in-law of several local *sufedposhes*, and that not long ago he attempted to swindle Sardár Gajindar Singh of Majítha, and is to be prosecuted for it. The writer further alleges that Mahant Sant Dás, of Cholah, recently drew some money from the local Treasury, and has been squandering it at Amritsar in drinking and debauchery. After calling upon the Tahsíldár of Tarn Táran to look into the matter, he requests the Deputy Commissioner to make inquiries into the conduct of Mahants who have *jágirs* in the Amritsar District.

The Muharram at Amritsar.

16. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1902, writing about the Muharram celebrations at Amritsar, complains that the date for taking out *tázias* entered in the licenses granted to the local Muhammadans was the 19th April, and that the authorities concerned insisted on the Mehdi and other processions parading the city accordingly. The Editor takes exception to this proceeding and observes that when it had been ascertained that at Lahore and other places the *tázias* were to be taken out on the 20th the Musalmáns of Amritsar ought not to have been compelled to do so a day earlier. He further understands that the 17th of April, on which date the Mehdi processions were to pass through the city, having been fixed for a local horse race, the processions were ordered to be formed on the 16th. All the Musalmáns, however, did not agree to the change, with the result that several of the proposed processions had to be abandoned. The Editor adds that it would

have been far better if the date of the *race* had been changed, for this could not have mattered much. In conclusion, he remarks that on occasions like those under reference the authorities should proceed with caution and prudence.

The Arya Samáj.

17. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 17th April 1902, says that an impression has got about that the Arya Samáj is not now the thriving institution it was a few years back, and that its members lack the enthusiasm which formerly animated them. Some persons are of opinion that this state of affairs is due to the split in the Samáj, and that the evil can be remedied only by reuniting the opposing factions. If these critics, adds the Editor, mean that the Samáj can make no progress unless the "Mahatma" and the "cultured" Aryás reunite, they are assuredly in the wrong. If, however, they merely wish to imply that should the followers of Swámi Dayánand be anxious to move forward they ought to promote love and sympathy among themselves, not the least objection can be taken to this. The Editor then goes on to say that there can be no doubt that the Arya Samáj has suffered greatly owing to a split in its ranks. Nevertheless, he is of opinion that, all other conditions remaining the same, the Samáj could have made no progress even without such a split. The requirements of societies, like those of individuals, grow with age, and if steps are not taken to supply these requirements, the results are disastrous. The Arya Samáj could not claim exemption from the operation of this rule, and its present weakness is due to the fact that so far adequate provision has not been made to meet its increasing wants. The Editor says the work of the Samáj is two fold: that of *destruction* (uprooting pernicious ideas and usages prevalent amongst "us") and that of *reconstruction* (replacing such ideas and usages by good ones). That it has so far been performing both these duties successfully it is unnecessary to prove. It cannot, however, be gainsaid that the weapons, with which it has hitherto been fighting its battle, have now become unserviceable and must be replaced by more effective arms. Indeed, if this is not done, not only will its further progress be arrested, but its very existence will become doubtful. The Editor then explains how even the refutation by the Arya Samáj of objectionable religious beliefs will in future be a more onerous task than it has hitherto been, and observes that the accomplishment of the work before the Samáj requires great sacrifices and perseverance. The followers of Dyánand need not, however, feel cast down, for a greater spirit of sacrifice is observable in their ranks nowadays. In support of this the *Gazette* refers to the sacrifices recently made by some Arya Samájits of Hissar in furtherance of the principles of their religion (*vide* paragraphs 9 and 11 of the Selections No. 15).

The Qurán and the Vedás.

18. The *Arya Musáfir Magazine* (Jullundur), for March (received on the 25th April) 1902, says that every now and then Muhammadans hold up the flickering lamp of the Qurán before the sun of righteousness, *viz.* the Vedás, and resort to various subterfuges in order to prove that their dim *chirágh* is the light giving orb. All their efforts are, however, vain; for a dying lamp cannot be compared with the source of all light. And it was for this reason

that the late Munshi Indar Mán's reply to Maulvi Abaidullah's attacks on the Arya religion proved so effective. Likewise, Swámi Dayánand's *Sattiárth Parkásh* established the superiority of the Vedás, showed up all false religions in their true colours, and put to rout the opponents of the Arya faith throughout the country. In the Punjab Mirza Ghulám Ahmad endeavoured to defend Islám, and with that view published his *Burahín-i-Ahmadia* containing unfounded charges against the Arya Samáj and its founder. The late Pandit Lekh Rám, however, published a reply to this book, and so handled the Mirza therein as to place Musalmáns in a tight corner. * * * * * * * * * * * * He was a thorn in the side of Musalmáns, and the cowardly manner in which they murdered him will continue to stain their name for ever. After his death Muhammadan writers published, in rapid succession, book after book in defence of their religion. Munshi Sana Ullah, of Amritsar, is one of these writers, and has brought out a refutation of the criticism of Islám contained in the 14th Chapter of the *Sattiárth Parkásh*. A perusal of the book, however, reveals the fact that all the statements made in it are misleading and false. Indeed, the Maulvi has merely attempted to prefer against the Vedás the identical charges brought against the Qurán by Swámi Dayánand. The Editor concludes by promising a detailed review of the book at some future time.

The Christian ideal of God.

19. One Yugindar Pál, writing to the same paper, criticises an article which he says appeared in the *Taraqqi* for February last from the pen of the Revd. J. C. R. Ewing, Principal of the Lahore Mission College, and in which it was claimed that the Christian ideal of God is higher than that to be found in any other religion. The *Arya Musáfir Magazine's* correspondent, in a not very temperately worded letter, endeavours to prove that the Revd. Mr. Ewing is wrong, and quotes the Bible in support of his arguments. The letter contains indicencies and blasphemies, such as "He plucked out the private parts of females." * * * "A being who commits such acts must be a blood-thirsty executioner" * * * "A perusal of the Bible makes one feel that this God is inferior even to men and animals," &c, &c. The writer promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

The Bible.

20. The same correspondent also writes a letter to the *Sat Dharm Parchárik* (Jullundur), of the 18th April 1902, with a view to proving that the Bible is false. The writer after ridiculing the doctrine of the Trinity and raising certain objections to John I, 1—5, promises to resume his remarks later.

The Christian religion.

21. The same paper publishes a communication from one Guru Piára, who says that in the course of an article published by him in the *Parchárik* in February last he referred to the rise of the "Holy Ghosters" in America, and remarked that so long as religions founded by men were not discarded, love and peace could not reign in the world. A Christian preacher at Chúnián, writing to the *Núr Afshán* of the 21st March last, attempts to controvert this view, and inveighs against the Vedás more than once, although there was no mention of these books in the article aforesaid. It is, however, to be feared that he has completely misunderstood the writer. For instance, it was never alleged by

the latter that the rise of the "Holy Ghosters" was ascribable to the influence of the Vedic religion. All that he said was that a thorough knowledge of the contents of the Bible was at the bottom of the Ghosters throwing Christianity overboard. He further remarks that if sensible and impartial persons continue to display an increasing zeal for religious research it should not be difficult to foretell what the end of Christianity will be.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

A suggestion to enforce the Land Alienation Act in the Attock Tahsil.

22. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd April 1902, says that, although the Attock Tahsil was severed from the Frontier Province and re-incorporated in the Rawalpindi District, the Land Alienation Act has not been extended to it yet. There can be no doubt that the operation of the Act will one day be extended to the tahsil in question, but it is to be feared that the boon will come too late. The local *Sáhúkárs*, adds the Editor, are taking advantage of the delay in the enforcement of the Act in their tahsil, and have of late been buying land from poor *samindárs*. The Editor, therefore, requests the Government to look into the matter at an early date.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—*Judicial.*

The appointment of Khán Bahádur Ahmad Shah as an Honorary District Judge.

23. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th (received on the 28th) April 1902, remarks that the Punjab Government seems to have adopted a more liberal policy in connection with the distribution of honorary posts. That this is so is evidenced by the appointment of Khán Bahádur Ahmad Shah, a retired Extra Assistant Commissioner, to be an Honorary District Judge. The Khán Bahádur is a just, impartial, experienced and pleasant-mannered officer, and the judicial work done by him was highly approved of by the Chief Court. The Editor concludes by congratulating the residents of Jullundur on their securing the services of an officer of the abilities of this gentleman.

(b)—*Police.*

A charge against a Deputy Inspector of Police.

24. A correspondent writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 21st April 1902, reports that about a year and-a-half ago Musammát Amirzadgai, wife of Firoz, a resident of Mauza Chamkani, Peshawar District, was abducted by Juma Khán, a Lambardár of Chola Gujjar. The Police obtained several warrants for her arrest, but to no purpose. Muhammad Sharífullah Khán, Zaildár of Chamkani, however, has proved more fortunate and has effected the arrest of Amirzadgai. In her statement before the City Magistrate of Peshawar the woman stated that whenever a warrant was issued for her arrest her abductor used to conceal her in the house of Bahrám Khán, Deputy Inspector of Police; and she further alleged that he paid the Deputy Inspector Rs. 15 a month for keeping the secret.

25. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer takes newspapers to task for preferring unfounded charges against Chaukidárs and expecting impossible things from these luckless individuals. He then goes on to say that Chaukidárs are a very low-paid lot, receiving only Rs. 3 a month. To make matters worse, even this petty pay is not disbursed to them regularly or in full; not infrequently they are paid only annually or half-yearly. But, as if this was not enough, they are treated like so many beasts of burden. The Chaukídár is at the beck and call of every Government official, of howsoever low a rank, visiting the village, and has to work like a cart-horse for him. The writer would, therefore, request Government to do something to better the condition of Chaukídárs, and suggests that Lambardárs should not be allowed to pay in the land revenue collected by them unless they produce receipts to show that the Chaukídárs of their respective villages have been paid for the preceding six months.

Grievances of Chaukídárs.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

26. The *Akhwáliá Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1902, complains that the local Municipality recovered a tax of 9 pies per head on cattle which their owners could not dispose of at the last Baisákhi Fair at Amritsar and had to take back home. To make matters worse, the tax was also recovered on young calves. The Editor regrets that the local Municipal Secretary should have imposed the tax without the sanction of Government or without a formal resolution having been adopted by the Municipality. All that he did was to obtain an offer from one Ghulám Muhammad and secure the President's sanction to give the man a contract to collect the tax, the Municipality's share being fixed at Rs. 50. The Editor adds that if the imposition of this illegal tax was unavoidable the contract ought to have been sold by public auction. He also says that while the income from the tax is said to have amounted to about Rs. 4,000, the Municipality received Rs. 50 only. This, observes the Editor, ought to give an idea of the honest manner in which Mr. Gardener is discharging his duties. It is, therefore, to be regretted that the Deputy Commissioner should continue to give that gentleman promotion in order to "whitewash" him. The *Gazette* also alleges that the Municipality illegally recovered Re. 0-3-6 instead of Re. 0-2-0 per head on cattle brought to the Show.

Complaint against the Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

27. The *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 21st April 1902, learns from a correspondent that recently a shunting porter at the Wazírabad Railway Station was run over by an engine and cut into pieces. The Editor takes the officials concerned to task for their negligence, and asks why such sad accidents should be common at this station.

A fatal accident at the Wazírabad Railway Station.

(g)—*Postal Matters.*

28. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th April 1902, says that work in the Branch Post Office at Ghartal, Siálkot District, is heavier than in the Bhápolwála Sub-Office, and suggests that Ghartal should also be raised to a sub-office.

The Post Office at Ghartal Siálkot District.

(h)—*Miscellaneous.*

29. A Siálkot correspondent, writing to the *Sirâj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 21st April 1902, says that the whole of the sum of Rs 4,50,000 with which the King-Emperor intends feeding the poor on the occasion of his Coronation should not be spent in London alone, but that a moiety of it should be remitted to India for the benefit of the poor in this country. He then suggests that large numbers of the poor should be fed in the capitals of the various Local Governments and Administrations on the day on which His Majesty is crowned. He further suggests that all prisoners belonging to respectable families should be released in honor of the happy event, substantial remissions being made of the sentences passed against others.

The Coronation.

30. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1902, exhorts the residents of Amritsar to gird up their loins and take steps to prevent the plague spreading to their city. They should, says the Editor, expect no help from the local Municipal Commissioners, seeing that these worthies are busy looking after the cleanliness of their own houses and do not care what befalls their constituents. The people should, besides, disabuse their minds of the idea that Government will come to their rescue of its own accord. The Editor then suggests that the various communities inhabiting Amritsar should form their own committees to combat the plague, remembering that if the disease succeeds in obtaining a footing in the city it will be very difficult to dislodge it.

The plague.

31. A local correspondent writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th (received on the 28th) April 1902, says that so far both Lahore and Amritsar have escaped the plague, but it is doubtful if they will enjoy this immunity much longer. Indeed, the epidemic has already broken out in the neighbourhood of the latter city. The writer then regrets that the Municipal Commissioners of Amritsar should do absolutely nothing to prevent the plague spreading to their city. He alleges that people from infected areas are migrating to Amritsar in large numbers, but that they are not interfered with in any way. He then dwells on the advantages of inoculation and exhorts the city fathers to induce their constituents to get themselves inoculated before it is too late. The correspondent adds that the people should remember that Government has decided to abstain from using force in connection with plague measures, and that they themselves should do everything necessary to stamp out the disease, for Government will render only such help as is asked of it. He further remarks that the coming Municipal elections at Amritsar are calculated to prevent the

The same.

members of the Municipality from looking after the sanitation of the city, and suggests the postponement of the election for a year. In conclusion he remarks that Amritsar is such a densely-populated city that if the plague obtains a footing therein, it will be very difficult to dislodge it.

The same.

32. The *Sat Dharm Parchárik* (Jullundur), of the 18th April 1902, publishes a communication from one Káshi Rám, a Vaid at Lahore, who, after asserting that the efforts of English doctors to stamp out the plague in India have proved futile, says that Government ought to have tried the Vaidic methods of disinfection. He then explains the advantages of *havans*, and remarks that if Hindús performed it in infected areas in the prescribed manner and thereby proved that a *havan* serves the purpose of a disinfectant, it would be possible to induce Government to add the performance of *havans* to its plague measures.

Famine and plague in India.

33. A correspondent of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 22nd April 1902, says that the frequent appearance of famines in India is attributable to droughts and not to periodical settlements or an over-assessment of the land revenue. He adds that were learned and peace-loving men like the Hon'ble Syad Ali (? Hussain) Bilgrámi leaders of Native Society, the country would progress rapidly. He regrets, however, that at present this position is occupied by gentlemen whose professions do not accord with their practices, and who look upon forgery, perjury and the like * as laudable virtues. After suggesting that Mr. Bilgrámi should undertake a tour of the country with the object of disseminating his views among the people, the writer observes that if the rains were regular and a stop were put to the dishonest practices of usurers, legal practitioners and Government officials (especially members of the Police force), India would always be in a prosperous condition. And if her children started factories she would assuredly become the richest country in the world. The correspondent adds that this end can be gained only if education is made general in Hindústán and the various classes of natives become united and remain loyal to their present rulers. He then goes on to say that the majority of the people have come to appreciate the old plague measures. He further remarks that *Patwáris* and teachers in villages spread disquieting rumours among their neighbours, and calls upon these persons to mend their ways and induce the people to get themselves inoculated.

The reversion of Captain Elliott to the post of Assistant Commissioner.

34. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 19th April 1902, deprecates the conduct of Lord Curzon in making Captain Elliott revert to the post of Assistant Commissioner, and remarks that the services rendered by Captain Elliott in the Gujrát Dissrict are such that he should have been made a *pucca* Deputy Commissioner. Indeed, if the Viceroy were to make personal inquiries in the Gujrát District he would find that its residents do not approve of the treatment meted out to Captain Elliott. The paper adds that it was this officer who put down the lawlessness so prevalent in the Gujrát District previous to his time, and that it is to be hoped Government will reconsider his case and do him justice.

* If this is a hit at Mr. Tilak, it is premature.—*Ed., Akhbár-i 'Am.*

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 19.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The unrest in the Balkans.

1. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, complains that the Christians of Europe cannot tolerate the Turks and pay no regard to justice and fair-play in their treatment of them. They trump up diverse charges against the Osmanlis every now and then, and represent that the Sultán's Christian subjects are grossly oppressed by their Muhammadan neighbours. The Editor says that there is no truth in the latter accusation and that it is an invention on the part of designing persons. Indeed, it is an open secret that the object of the Christians of Macedonia, &c., is to provoke the Turks into maltreating them, and thereby induce the Powers to intervene on their behalf and secure their independence. The Editor then remarks that the present disturbances in the Balkans are being raised with this object.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd and 5th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	9,047	7	11
Munshi Muhammad Ismail, retired Overseer, Delhi	100	0	0
Small subscriptions	95	4	0
Total ...	9,242	11	11

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Cash in hand on the 25th April	693	13	0
1. Through Háji Kále Khán of Chhatári, Bulandshahr District	413	8	0
2. Received through Maulvi Murád Ali of Begowál, Kapurthala State ...	55	10	0
Small subscriptions	31	8	0
Total ...	1,194	7	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey... ...	3,800	5	10
Total ...	4,994	12	10

III.—Native States.

The deposition of the Mahárája of Panna.

4. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, says that the deposition of the Mahárája of Panna should serve as a warning to Native Chiefs throughout India. Some of these Chiefs, adds the Editor, are so given up to pleasure that they care for nothing else, and the welfare of their subjects is of no consequence to them. The fate of the Mahárája should open the eyes of such Princes to the fact that there exists a far more powerful Government than those they represent.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Colonel Jowála Singh, Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

5. The *Ahlúwália Gasette* (Amritsar), of 1st May 1902, reiterates the charges preferred by it from time to time against Colonel Jowála Singh and his Munshi, Bhola Singh, and calls upon the Deputy Commissioner to have the accounts of the Jalau Fund overhauled.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

6. A correspondent writing to the same paper repeats for the benefit of the new Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar the charges preferred in that paper against the Mahant of the local Bráhm Búta Akhára, his agent (Paras Rám) and Mahant Sant Das of Chohla; and he calls upon the Deputy Commissioner to enquire into the conduct of the Mahants residing in the Amritsar District.

Lord Curzon's orders regarding the evacuation by Government of two mosques at Lahore.

7. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, reports that on his way to Pesháwar Lord Curzon left the special train at Lahore and hiring a cab quietly drove to Wazír Khán's and the Imperial mosques to inspect respectively the pulpit and the lamp presented by him to these places of worship. His Excellency also visited the fort and ordered that the Moti Masjid in it should be vacated for the benefit of the Musalman employés in the fort. The Viceroy further ordered that the mosque near the Railway Station in which is located the office of the Traffic Superintendent, North-Western Railway, should be vacated and made over to Muhammadans.

The same.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1902, publishes similar remarks and praises Lord Curzon for his action.

Breaking of an image in a Benares temple.

9. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st May 1902, reports that the idol "Bhairo" in an important temple at Benares has been broken by some one, but that the local Police have so far failed to lay hands on the offender. The fact, says the Editor, that the offender is still at large is presumably due to the Police Officers at Benares owing money to certain of their corrupt subordinates and the latter having, in consequence, everything their own way. The breaking of the image has created great uneasiness among the residents of Benares and the authorities should inquire into the matter at once.

Jesus Christ.

10. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 10th and 24th April 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 16 of the Selections No. 15), endeavours to prove that the Bishop of Lahore is wrong in asserting that Christ was the

enbodiment of the religion taught by Him. The writer tries to show, quoting the Bible in support of his opinions, that Christ did not act up to his teaching which itself was not of a high order; that He used to associate with women of bad character; that He was fond of wine; that His conduct generally was not good, &c., &c. After asserting that Christ's example is calculated to diffuse atheism through the world, the article winds up by describing the crucifixion as a "suicide."

The same.

11. The same paper, of the 24th April 1902, publishes a report of a discourse by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad on the subject of the parentage of Christ, His general character, &c., in which the stereotyped charge of adultery against the Virgin Mary is repeated and that of inchastity against both her and her mother. The theory is advanced that Mary became pregnant while serving in the tabernacle and that the authorities of the tabernacle married her to Joseph to avoid a scandal. The "Prophet of Kádián" describes Christianity as a whited sepulchre, the fraud of which will very soon be exposed, and concludes by asserting that he has been sent by God to make Islám victorious over all other religions.

The same.

12. One Shekh Abdul Haq, who once embraced Christianity, but has now returned to the Islámic fold, writing to the *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), of the 1st (received on the 30th) April 1902, refers to certain incidents in the life of Christ in the endeavour to show that the character of the founder of Christianity was such that it is impossible to attain salvation by having faith in Him. The Shekh prays that Christians may see the error of their devilish ways and come to believe in the Qorán.

The Christian religion.

13. The same paper, after remarking that the worship of idols and created beings is the source of all vices, observes that in the propagation of their religion Christians do not hesitate to use means which clash with the commandments of God. As an instance in point, the Editor states that thousands of women have been imported into India from foreign countries to help in the conversion of natives to Christianity. He remembers the remark made by the *Jámi-ul-Ulum* some time back to the effect that if Islám was disseminated in the world by means of the sword, Christ's faith was being propagated with the aid of women, a shameless proceeding. He sneers at the doctrine of vicarious punishment, and endeavours to prove that it cannot ensure the salvation of mankind; also that the doctrine has rendered the followers of Christ incapable of performing good deeds, and has led Christian men and women to indulge in drinking and dissipation to their hearts' content.

The same.

14. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 10th April 1902, publishes a report of a sermon delivered by a Munshi Abdul Karím on the 11th April last. The Maulvi commences by saying that the Qorán strikes at the root of the heathenism (the reference is to Christianity) which insults human faculties and has thrown piety and morality overboard. It has, he adds, thoroughly falsified the dangerous, absurd

and accursed doctrine regarding Christ being God, and has thereby saved the world from eternal damnation and (other) evil consequences of the worship of Christ. The Maulvi further remarks that the aforesaid doctrine is the parent of all vices and the means of spreading immorality and devilry of all sorts throughout the world. He then quotes a verse from the Qorán, which says: "Infidels are those who put forward the claim that God and Mary's son, Christ, are one and the same being." He also ridicules the doctrine of the Trinity and endeavours to prove that Christ never claimed to be God.

The indifference of Muhammadans to spreading their faith in India.

15. The *Anwár-ul-Islám* (Lahore) of the 1st (received on the 30th) April, 1902, regrets that, while believers in the doctrine of the Trinity are preaching their religion in fiery and eloquent words, Musalmáns should do nothing to spread Islám, the true faith, in the country. The Editor is afraid that if his co-religionists do not take advantage of the present *régime*, under which every person enjoys perfect religious liberty, to propagate their faith, the opportunity is not likely to occur again. He adds that Government is so neutral in religious matters that although according to its laws it is criminal in a man to send his wife to another for the purpose of producing children, it does not interfere with him if this act on his part is not considered shameless in his religion —(The fling is at the Aryas' doctrine of *niyog*.)

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad.

16. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 10th April 1902, publishes an article over the signature of one Abdul Karím, who complains that for some time past the *Paisa Akhbár* has been making bitter and angry attacks against "the promised Messiah" (Mirza Ghulám Ahmad). He adds that had that unfortunate and foolish paper left the dispute between it and "us" to the verdict of earthly judges, it would have been possible to treat its writings with indifference and contempt. As, however, it has been villainous and presumptuous enough to invoke Divine judgment in the matter, it shall see in favour of which party God gives His decision. He then inveighs against the Editor of the paper for having doubted the Mirza's prophecy that Kádián would remain immune from the plague. He calls the journalist in question an earthworm, a wretch, an enemy of truth, &c., and alleges that the above prophecy is based on a revelation received by "the Prophet of Kádián" from God. The writer adds that this revelation is as genuine as were those made to Moses and Muhammad, and that the present outbreak of the plague was prophesied by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad as long as twenty-five years back. After remarking that the Editor of the *Paisa Akhbár* will one day be overtaken by God's wrath, he falls foul of Maulvi Muhammad Husain of Batála, Maulvi Nazir Husain of Delhi, Pír Mehr Ali Shah of Golra, Háfiz Muhammad Yúsaf of Abbott-abad (this man is referred to as a mean juggler), Munshi Iláhi Bakhsh of Lahore, &c., and challenges them to prove themselves the equals of the Mirza by securing for their native towns immunity from the plague. A similar challenge is made to Christian Missionaries, and they are asked, in a jeering tone, to beseech Christ to prevent the epidemic spreading to places where Bishops reside. The correspondent adds that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has been sent with the object of exposing the fictitious God of the Christians and proving to the world that Christ cannot be compared even with a humble servant of Muhammad, like himself.

17. Commenting on the above, the *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 26th April 1902, invites Government's attention to the inflammatory character of the communication. The Editor adds that no respectable newspaper would resort to the use of the abusive language employed in the *Hakam*. He then ridicules Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's prophecy regarding Kádián remaining immune from the plague, and remarks that thousands of isolated villages in India are certain to escape the ravages of the pestilence. Referring to the prediction that he will one day be overtaken by God's wrath, the Editor expresses the hope that the Ahmadi Mission will abstain from doing what it is suspected to have done in the case of certain persons whose death was prophesied by Mirza Ghulám Ahmad.* In conclusion, he remarks that the Mirza is the only false prophet whose predictions clash with one another.

The same.

18. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 10th April 1902, publishes a report of a sermon delivered by Maulvi Abdul Karím on the 4th April last. In the course of the sermon the Maulvi referred to the prevalence of the plague in the Punjab, and alleged that while large numbers of people were falling victims to the disease, Mirza Ghulám Ahmad had received a revelation to the effect that he and those who sought his protection would remain immune from it. He further remarked that the epidemic was a (heavenly) sign of blessings to the Mirza and his followers, and of disgrace and misery to the opponents of "the promised Messiah of Kádián." After observing that in times of tribulation men are apt to turn to God and truth, the Maulvi asserted that since the outbreak of the plague Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's followers had increased by thousands; and added that this showed that the Mirza was really a messenger from God.

The same.

19. The *Núr Afshán* (Ludhiána), of the 2nd May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes one Abdul Haq, a disciple of Mirza Ghulám Ahmad, to task for stating in a notice recently issued by him that it is an impossibility that Christ could have ascended to heaven bodily. He also ridicules the assertion made in the same notice that the fact of Kádián having so far remained immune from the plague proves that the Mirza is the promised Messiah and Mehdi. Abdul Haq, adds the correspondent, should remember that thousands of other places in India enjoy this immunity, although no self-styled Messiah or Mehdi resides in them. Besides, he asks, when God has declared that He has taken Kádián under His own protection, why does the Mirza prohibit people from infected areas from visiting the said village? The writer then goes on to say that the revelations which Mirza Ghulám Ahmad claims to have received from the Almighty are his own inventions, for otherwise he would not have been so afraid of the plague. He concludes by calling upon Abdul Haq to throw a liar like the Mirza overboard.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad and Chaudhri Sultán Muhammad

20. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 24th April 1902, reports that through the influence of Dr. Mirza Yaqub, Assistant Surgeon, Jhelum, Chaudhri Sultán Muhammad, formerly Mír Munshi to the Government of Afghánistán, has

* The reference is to the suspicion that the Mirza or his followers had a hand in the murder of the late Pandit Lekh Rám.

been drawn to Mirza Ghulám Ahmad's faith. He recently paid a visit to Kádián in company with the Doctor, and before leaving promised to return to the village at an early date.

The Aryás and their critics.

21. The *Sat Dharam Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 25th April 1902, says that all the tenets of the Vedic religion being based on knowledge and reason, only sensible and clear-headed persons can realize their true significance. This is proved by the fact that, while the Aryás attack the doctrines of other religions in an intelligent manner, their opponents raise objections against the teachings of the Vedic faith without studying or understanding them. Besides, they do not keep themselves within the bounds of legitimate criticism, and descend to the use of obscene and abusive language. The Editor then goes on to say that those who have read the scriptures of the Vedic religion even in a cursory manner cannot but know that the doctrine of *niyog* is not among the fundamental tenets of the said faith. A perusal of the writings by non-Aryás on the subject will, however, show that these writers are under the impression that the Vedic faith rests on this doctrine alone. The Editor does not mean to say that Muhammadans, &c., should not criticise the doctrine in question. All he wishes to convey is that they should do so in an enquiring and fair spirit. He, however, regrets to have to record that the opponents of the Aryás have never approached the subject in this spirit. As an instance in point he states that there is hardly any issue of the *Hakam*, the *Anwár-ul-Islám*, the *Sanátan Dharam Gazette*, &c., in which, in course of criticism on the doctrine of *niyog*, grossly insulting and offensive language is not used towards the Aryás. After quoting extracts in support of this, he says that not *niyog*, but the Muhammadan *muta*, is really a means of gratifying carnal passions.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

22. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st May 1902, objects to the proposal to give Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the local Municipality, a reward of Rs. 500 out of the increase of Rs. 50,000 in receipts from the octroi for the last financial year. The Editor says that this increase is not due to any good management on the part of Mr. Gardener. But even if the case were otherwise the Secretary would not be entitled to a reward, seeing that he is paid Rs. 600 a month to look after the interests of the Municipality. Besides, so far none of his predecessors were ever rewarded for an increase in the income from octroi. The Editor then goes on to show that Mr. Gardener has dispensed with the services of all responsible Municipal employés and is now having everything his own way. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the new Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar will take steps to put an end to looting on the part of the Municipal Secretary.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

23. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, says that the space in front of the ticket window at the Gujránwála Station is too small for the requirements of the travelling public. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the booking office should be located where passengers could purchase their tickets without being subjected to any inconvenience. He then complains that at the station named passengers are admitted to the platform through a narrow gate, although there is a second and wider gate leading to the platform. After remarking that the public should be allowed to use both gates, he alleges that watermen at the Kámoki Station are told off to do other than their legitimate work just when a train reaches the station. This, he alleges, is a source of great inconvenience to passengers, especially during the hot weather.

The Railway Commission.

24. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 27th April 1902, writing about the Railway Commission, says that when third class carriages are provided with latrines all distinction between them and intermediate class carriages will cease to exist. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the seats in the latter carriages should be provided with cushions, to compensate intermediate passengers for the higher fares paid by them. He also suggests that intermediate and third class tickets should not be sold at one and the same window, as the practice entails considerable inconvenience to passengers of the former class. He further suggests that mail trains should make longer halts at important stations to prevent passengers being left behind.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

25. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th April 1902, says that the abandonment by Government of its old plague measures owing to the opposition of foolish and ignorant persons has led to the spread of the disease to almost all the cities and towns in the Punjab. The Editor then suggests that if Government were to make inoculation and disinfection compulsory in the case of public servants, it would tend to induce the ignorant among the people to get themselves inoculated and pay regard to the cleanliness of their houses. He adds that the allowances of Lambardárs and Zaildárs refusing to observe the plague instructions issued by Government should be stopped.

The same.

26. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st May 1902, says that though, as was apprehended, the plague has broken out in Amritsar, the local Municipal Commissioners care for their own safety alone and have left their poor constituents to shift for themselves. The Editor calls upon the Municipality to look after the sanitation of the city and supply disinfectants to the poor gratis. It should also publish—in Hindi, Punjabi, Gurmukhi and Urdu—pamphlets showing how to escape and combat the plague and distribute them broadcast among the people of Amritsar. The Editor also requests the local Hakíms to offer their services for the suppression of the epidemic.

The Coronation.

27. One Fateh Singh of Kapurthala, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, says that in commemoration of the Coronation—

(1) kine-slaughter should be altogether prohibited in India;

(2) the land revenue should be permanently settled;

(3) the examination for admission into the Civil Service of India should be ordered to be held in this country;

(4) higher Military appointments should be thrown open to natives;

(5) the practice of appointing Residents in Feudatory States should be discontinued;

(6) the income tax should be abolished or the minimum taxable income raised to Rs. 1,000; and

(7) the grants of titles of honour should be accompanied by jágírs.

Complaint against a Zillahdár.

28. A correspondent, writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 28th April 1902, alleges that the relations between Munshi Lál Singh, Zillahdár, and the Canal Patwári in the Háfizabad *iláqa* have of late been greatly strained. Indeed free fights take place between the parties, and reports to this effect are daily made at the local Police Station. The writer would, therefore, request the Deputy Collector concerned to transfer the said Zillahdár to some other place, for otherwise an open breach of the public peace is to be apprehended.

A suggestion to fill the post of Hospital Assistant, Faridabad, Delhi District.

29. A Faridabad correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 3rd May 1902, says that it is nearly a month since the local Hospital Assistant was deputed to Sonepat, but that so far no one has been sent to take up the post vacated by him. This, alleges the writer, is a source of considerable inconvenience to the residents of Faridabad, and the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi and the Inspector-General of Hospitals, Punjab, should look into the matter without delay.

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SELECTIONS

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FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The agricultural condition of the Transvaal.

1. One Muhammad Mustafa, residing in South Africa, writing to the *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st (received on the 9th) May 1902, alleges that agriculture is in a very backward state in the Transvaal, and expresses a hope that the British Government will take steps to remedy this state of things. Free-grants of land and money, he suggests, should be made to foreigners desirous of engaging in agriculture. He adds that land in the Transvaal is capable of producing cereals of all kinds, and can be irrigated without the least difficulty.

The Hedjáz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 9th May 1902, acknowledges the folllowing subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,242	11	11
Small subscriptions	...	51	7	0
Total	...	9,294	2	11

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 2nd May	...	1,194	7	0
Received through Mían Abdul Karím Khán of Mauza Haryáo Singhwán, Patiála	...	100	0	0
Small subscriptions	...	30	6	0
Total	...	1,324	13	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	5,125	2	10

(b)—*Home.*

4. The *Gulsár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, says that the world is surprised at the spectacle of the British Government paying no regard to its promises and engagements. The Editor enquires if the pledges contained in the late Queen-Empress' Proclamation of 1858 as well as those from time to time given to the natives of India by succeeding Viceroys have not proved mere empty words. He then goes on to say that not long ago Lord Curzon exhorted the people to remember that they and Englishmen were fellow-subjects and stood on the same plane. Will, however, His Excellency say how far Englishmen, who claim to be civilised, act up to this precept? The most eminent noblemen in the country, complains the Editor, are not treated with the same consideration as Englishmen, while even the greatest Native Chiefs are considered as nothing in comparison with the Residents posted in their States. Again, is it just that natives should be excluded from holding higher appointments in the public service or that the Indian Courts should not have the power to try Europeans? (*sic.*) There can be no doubt that the people of this country deserved to be punished for the Mutiny of 1857. Now, however, the simple-minded and good-natured native looks upon the British Government as his own and is ever ready to lay down even his life in its defence. It is, therefore, a matter for regret that he should continue to be looked down upon as a savage or semi-barbarian. In contrast to this is the treatment accorded to the Irish, who, notwithstanding their open defiance and denunciation of Government, are regarded as loyal and shown special consideration. Is it then true to assert, asks the Editor, that the British Government is just and is not swayed by racial prejudices? He then goes on to say that it is the height of injustice that while the people of India are the devoted subjects of their present Government, it should continue to give them the cold shoulder. He adds that the word "European" seems to exercise a magical effect on the powers that be. As an instance in point, he states that no Native Association enjoys the respect and confidence accorded by the Government of India to the various Chambers of Commerce in the country. Again, not a single member of Parliament cares to draw Government's attention to the grievances of the residents of India, although England derives all her greatness and importance from her possession of this despised land. As regards the social relations between Anglo-Indians and the children of the soil, the Editor alleges that the former hate the very word "native." He complains that natives daily suffer disgrace at the hands of Englishmen on Indian Railways, are murdered by the latter and kicked out of their bungalows. Government, he adds, should remember that natives are not angels, and that they cannot shut their eyes to their ill-treatment by members of the ruling race. After remarking that this is not the way to make the people cease regarding Anglo-Indians as aliens, he exhorts the latter to learn to treat the native in a more considerate manner.

Government and the people of India.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Akhbár-i-Am* (Amritsar), of the 5th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer reports that Mián Rahím Bakhsh, Tahsildár of Bholath (?) in the Kapurthala State, has been suspended for having embezzled

Kapurthala affairs.

eighty odd of money belonging to the State, and that Lála Dhuman Mal, Collector, and Bábu Kishen Chand, Superintendent of Police, have been deputed to enquire into the Tahsíldár's conduct. The correspondent has nothing to say against this proceeding, but he would inquire why no notice was taken of the murder of a chaprási by a member of the Tahsíl Establishment of Phagwára reported in the columns of the *Ahluwália Gazette* some time back. Again, several complaints of bribery were made against the present Tahsíldár of Phagwára while he held the post of Superintendent of Police; but nothing was done to bring him to book. The writer then repeats the charges preferred by the Editor against this official some time back (*vide* paragraph 6 of the Selections No. 2) and calls upon the Rája of Kapurthala to inquire into them.

Suket affairs.

6. A correspondent, writing to the same paper, alleges that the Rája of Suket has been enhancing the land revenue payable by the State subjects, while he has revoked many a grant of land made by his ancestors. The writer further alleges that some time back His Highness ordered the removal of all the furniture in the room of the Tikka Sáhib, and that the young Prince now sleeps on hard ground.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Nudwat-ul-Ulema.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th May 1902, reports that the next session of the Nudwat-ul-Ulema will be held at Amritsar, and that the necessary preparations are being made. A local hide merchant, named Shekh Muhammad Jalíl, has contributed Rs. 1,000 towards the expenses, while certain other leading Musalmán residents of the city have also subscribed liberally, and a sum of Rs. 1,600 has already been collected. The Editor adds that Maulvi Ghulám Muhammad, Fazil, of Hoshiárpur, has come to Amritsar in connection with the forthcoming meeting of the Nudwa and has put up in the house of Shekh Ghulám Sadiq, Honorary Magistrate. On the preceding Friday the Maulvi preached a sermon in a local mosque explaining the aims and objects of the association. The Editor has no doubt that if the learned divine were to deliver a series of lectures on the subject, the remaining Rs. 1,400—the balance of Rs. 3,000, the estimated cost of holding the next session of the Nudwat-ul-Ulema—would very soon be forthcoming.

The Arya Samáj.

8. A Quetta correspondent, writing to the *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 9th May 1902, says that certain Aryás are of opinion that if their co-religionists broke with the Hindús they would be weakening the Arya Samaj. They, therefore, urge that they should first win over the Hindús to their side, and try to convert non-Hindús only after this object has been gained. The writer would, however, ask the Aryas to enquire if Swámi Dayanand's mission was of a universal character or if its sole end was the conversion of Hindús to the Vedic religion He adds that if the Swami's followers do not find a definite answer to this question they will fall into the same sink of filth in which the Sikhs are struggling at present. He then quotes extracts from the *Sathiárth Parkásh* to show that Dayanand's mission was to convert the entire human race to the faith taught in the Vedas.

9. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 5th May 1902, alleges that a sum of Rs. 1,000 recently remitted to the Temple by Sardár Jaggat Singh, of Bharooch, has been lent by the Manager to one Híra Singh, who is in charge of the Temple Toshakhána and who was once convicted of embezzlement and sentenced to seven years' imprisonment. The Editor further remarks that those who are proved to have embezzled money from the Jalau Fund should be punished in an exemplary manner.

The Golden Temple affairs.

10. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer repeats the charges of immorality and extravagance preferred by the Editor against certain Mahants in the Amritsar District, and calls upon the authorities to look into the matter without delay.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

11. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 19) says that Lord Curzon was greatly displeased at the untidy appearance of the lamp presented by him to the Local Imperial Mosque, and intimated his intention of calling for a written explanation on the subject. It appears that His Excellency wrote to the Lieutenant-Governor, who paid a visit to the mosque on the 8th instant. None of the members of the Anjuman-i-Islámia were, however, present on the occasion, and there is reason to believe that the explanation tendered to His Honor has not been considered satisfactory.

Lord Curzon's presents to Wazír Khán's and the Imperial Mosques at Lahore.

12. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, writing on the same subject says that the Viceroy was offended at the dirty appearance of the pulpit and the lamp presented by him to Wazir Khan's and the Imperial Mosques, respectively.

The same.

13. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 7th May 1902, after referring to Lord Curzon's orders regarding the restoration to the Muhammadans of two mosques in Lahore (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 19), says that an impression has got about that His Excellency's recent visit to the city was not without meaning.

The restoration to Muhammadans of two mosques at Lahore.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

14. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th May 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 22 of the Selections No. 19), says that the *Civil and Military Gazette* is wrong in thinking that the increase in the Amritsar Municipality's income from octroi for the last year is due to good management on the part of Mr. Gardiner. Indeed, there has been an increase in this income in all the principal cities of

Complaint against Mr. Gardiner, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

the Province; but nowhere has it been proposed to reward the Municipal Secretary out of the extra money collected. The Editor then goes on to say that Mr. Gardiner is greatly afraid of plague and takes no part in the measures for stamping out the pestilence in the city. He further alleges that Mr. Gardiner has fined several residents of Amritsar, although, according to the Municipal bye-laws, he possesses no power to do so. The Editor also finds fault with the Secretary for having given promotions of Rs. 25 each to two Municipal Sub-Overseers, and repeats his suggestion that the Amritsar Municipality should employ a competent European or Native Engineer (*vide* paragraph 23 of the Selections No. 15).

(d)—*Education.*

A suggestion to increase the salaries of low-paid teachers.

15. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th May 1902, says that the Government of India has sanctioned the grant of a sum of Rs. 4,00,000 for increasing the salaries of public servants in the Punjab. It is to be hoped, observes the Editor, that before spending the money the Local Government will try to find out the Departments in which low-paid employés can earn nothing beyond their salaries and find it difficult to make ends meet. He then goes on to say that the first and foremost among the officials who deserve an increase of pay are teachers of low rank, who, as was remarked by the Principal of the Lahore Government College before the Universities Commission, receive the wages of coolies. These unfortunate individuals, he adds, have not only to work hard for a miserable pittance, but promotion is also extremely slow in their case, while they are granted no retiring pensions. The Editor further suggests that a part of the aforesaid grant should be spent in establishing Model Schools in all districts and supplying scientific and other apparatus to Board Schools. He concludes by expressing the hope that the money will be utilized not for creating new highly-paid appointments, but for giving promotion to low-paid Government servants in the Province.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Agricultural condition of India.

16. One Tahl Rám, Honorary Secretary, Punjab Zamíndári Association, writing to the *Siráj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), dated 12th May 1902, remarks that famines are becoming chronic in India, and that the evil cannot be remedied unless Government Feudatory States and Native noblemen combine to improve the agricultural condition of the country. The writer adds that vast tracts of land are lying fallow in Hindustán, and that if arrangements were made for their irrigation they could easily be brought under cultivation. He, however, regrets that while Government takes great interest in the extension of railways in the country, it is not so anxious to extend the means of irrigation. Those who advocate the extension of railways of course contend that railways help to mitigate the hardships of famine by facilitating the transport of grain from one place to another; but they forget that railways cannot perform this function if there is no grain to transport. It is, therefore, the duty

of Government to pay greater attention to agriculture than it does at present. The writer would also advise the people to interest themselves in the development of the agricultural resources of the country. In this connection he suggests that if natives were to take to horse and mule-breeding, it would bring them immense profits.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

17. One P. D. Chopra, of Akálgarh, writing to the *Haq Pasand* (Amritsar), dated 11th May 1902, complains that passengers travelling from Gujránwála are admitted to the platform only when a train has arrived at the station. Consequently not a few passengers, especially gentlemen, have to elbow their way to the platform, and are not infrequently left behind. The writer then alleges that on the 26th ultimo a gentleman leaving Gujránwála on very urgent business purchased an Intermediate class ticket, but could not get on to the platform owing to the gate leading to it being closed. When, however, the gate was not opened even on the arrival of the train, he tried to get to the platform through a room adjoining the booking office. But while still in the room he was accosted by the Assistant Station Master, who used grossly abusive language towards him. The correspondent further remarks that some time back one Iláhi Bakhsh, who accompanied certain respectable persons to the Wazírabad Railway Station, was soundly abused by a Bábu. After remarking that some Railway officials are in collusion with the Police and put passengers to considerable inconvenience, he urges the Railway authorities to look into the matter.

The same.

18. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, complains that frequently reservoirs in the latrines in Intermediate class carriages are not supplied with water, with the result that passengers are put to great inconvenience. The Editor invites the attention of the Manager, North-Western Railway, to the matter and expresses a hope that that officer will do something to put an end to the grievance.

Infliction of heavy fines on clerks, &c., employed at stations on the North-Western Railway.

19. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, complains that employés at stations on the North-Western Railway are fined so heavily that they are having a very bad time of it. District Traffic Superintendents inflict the fines on the strength of reports submitted by Traffic Inspectors without enquiring into the truth or otherwise of the reports. The writer also states that not infrequently the unfortunate Railway servants in question are fined on the strength of reports made by Europeans Guards. After quoting an instance in support of this assertion, he alleges that not the least regard is paid to the Traffic Superintendent's orders prohibiting the infliction of a fine exceeding $\frac{1}{3}$th the salary of the official punished. He concludes by calling upon the Manager, North-Western Railway, to take prompt steps to remedy the evil.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

20. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 12th May 1902, remarks that according to a *Pioneer's* correspondent the clothes, &c., of all persons going to Simla are disinfected at a place six miles from there. It is not easy to understand when plague restrictions have been removed everywhere else why Simla should be an exception to the rule. It is because the place is the summer capital of India or because a very large number of Europeans reside in it? If the latter is the case, and it is proposed to put natives to trouble for the sake of the well-being of Europeans, the proceeding exposes Government to the charge of making invidious distinctions between these two classes of its subjects. Besides, when the residents of infected areas are free to go wherever they like why should they not be allowed to pass the hot weather at Simla. After exhorting the Lieutenant-Governor to ponder on the speech His Honor recently delivered at Jullundur, the Editor says that according to the aforesaid correspondent Europeans going to Simla manage to evade disinfection by holding out various threats to the Bábu on duty and that it is only natives whose clothes, &c., are disinfected. He concludes by calling upon the authorities to remove the hardships to which Native (*lit.* black) travellers to Simla are being subjected.

The same.

21. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th May 1902, writing about the outbreak of the plague in Amritsar, complains that so far the local Municipal Commissioners have done absolutely nothing to reassure their constituents or stamp out the pestilence. The Editor also alleges that the sanitation of the city is being grossly neglected and that even important thoroughfares are not kept clean. He then complains that neither the Municipal Secretary nor the Civil Surgeon has thought it worth while to visit the lane in which the plague has broken out, with the result that the people have become greatly alarmed. After suggesting that the place for inoculating the residents of Amritsar should be inside the City, he finds fault with one Doctor Ibádullah for having issued a notice to the effect that the appearance of the plague in the country is due to the opposition offered to Mirza Ghulám Ahmad of Kádián, and says that the circulation of such notices at a critical time like the present is calculated to alarm the people still further.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—29-5-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjás Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 9th May	...	1,324	13	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	24	0	0
Total	...	1,348	13	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	5,149	2	10

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th and 16th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,294	2	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	108	0	0
Total	...	9,402	2	11

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

3. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samáchar* (Lahore), of the 10th May 1902, says that of late the *Ahlúwália Gazette* has been publishing unfounded complaints against the Rája of Suket. As an instance in point, the writer states that there is no truth in the allegation regarding a former tutor to the Tika having been compelled to throw up his appointment (*vide* paragraph 7 of the Selections No. 14). It is equally false to assert that previous to his installation the Rája wrote to one Arjanún to set up an agitation on His Highness' behalf (*vide* paragraph 6 of the Selections No. 14). It cannot be believed for a moment that Dusht Nikandan Sain could have sent such a letter to Arjanún, seeing that the man had proved a traitor to the Rája's father and had, in 1878, raised a rebellion in the State. Besides, why should the Rája have hatched such a conspiracy within a few days of his installation? The writer then goes on to say that the present Commissioner of the Jullundur Division is prejudiced against the rulers of Suket, and that it was on the strength of certain reports made by him that the late Rája Ruddar Sain was deposed in 1878. He further remarks that Mr. Anderson having at first declined—and that as many as three times—to take up the case of Titlú Rám, it is not easy to discover what led him to change his mind later and become bitterly hostile to Dusht Nikandan Sain for the sake of a prisoner.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

4. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th May 1902, publishes communications from Sant Rám of Bassi Puráni, Hoshiárpur District; Pancham Singh of Dhul Gund; Abdul Majíd Khán, a *Zamíndár* of Sitápur in the Saháranpur District; and a Gujránwála correspondent, supporting the suggestion to commemorate the Coronation by forbidding the slaughter of kine in India.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulám Ahmad of Kádián.

5. The *Hakam* (Kádián), in an extraordinary issue, of the 11th May 1902, publishes a notice over the signature of one Abdul Karím, who announces that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad feels great relief in the pain in his back which at one time threatened to cut short his life. He adds that on the morning of the 11th May the Mirza received a revelation relating to his recovery, and remarked that his restoration to health resembled Christ's resurrection from the dead. "The Prophet of Kádián" also gave out that the revelation meant that he would not only live long but would also triumph over his opponents.

The same.

6. The same paper of the 10th May 1902 publishes a report of a sermon preached by Maulvi Abdul Karím on the 21st March last. In the course of his remarks the Maulvi asserted that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad was an incarnation of Muhammad and had been sent to restore the Qurán to its old glory and greatness. Those, added the preacher, who rejected the Mirza would be arraying themselves against the Almighty.

7. The same paper publishes a communication from one Shekh Atta Muhammad, a Sub-Overseer at Quetta, who says that the Muhammadans of the Punjab should disabuse their minds of the idea that the plague will disappear at no distant date. It has come, he alleges, to stay; and that the only remedy is that suggested by the Imám of the time (Mirza Ghulám Ahmad), namely, penitence and repentance. He exhorts his co-religionists to discontinue ridiculing the Mirza's claims, and begs the Mirza to pray to God to avert the danger with which they are threatened.

The same.

8. The same paper says that on the 10th April last Mirza Ghulám Ahmad told certain of his followers that for several preceding days he had been praying to God to keep Kádián immune from the plague, and that on the morning of the above day he received a revelation to the effect that his prayer had been granted.

The same.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

9. The *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), of the 17th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer regrets that, although the Bill introduced in the Vice-regal Council to amend the Code of Civil Procedure is of a very important nature, it has not been published in the Urdu edition of the *Punjab Government Gazette*.

The Bill to amend the Civil Procedure Code.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—*Judicial.*

10. The *Hakam* (Kádián), of the 10th May 1902, remarks that at present notices under Section 82 (of the Civil Procedure Code) are published in *Government Gazettes* or newspapers. Their insertion in the *Gazettes* can serve no useful purpose, for these periodicals circulate almost exclusively in public offices. As regards the publication of the notices in newspapers, it is to be regretted that not infrequently they are inserted in newspapers of which the circulation is very small, and which are printed at places at great distances from the Courts issuing the notices. The Editor calls upon the Chief Court to look into the matter. He also urges the *Victoria Paper*, the *Public Gazette*, the *Paisa Akhbár*, the *Vakil* and the *Watan* to take up the question.

Publication of notices under Section 82 of the Civil Procedure Code.

11. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a Supplement, of the 16th May 1902, alleges that, owing to the notices and summonses issued by Courts under the District Judge, Shahpur, not being served in time, the local litigating public is put to great unnecessary inconvenience and expense. The Editor alleges that the process-servers attached to the above Courts resort to strange tactics in

A judicial complaint.

connection with the service of summonses, &c., and make false reports to account for their failure in serving them. He then suggests that monthly or weekly statements should be prepared of the work done by each process-server, those found to have been guilty of neglect of duty being severely reprimanded. In conclusion, he calls upon the District Judge of Shahpur to look into the matter and remedy the grievance.

The same.

12. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 16th May 1902, complains that daily cause lists are not hung up in Divisional Courts and Courts subordinate to them, with the result that legal practitioners and litigants are put to much avoidable inconvenience. The Editor alleges that the work in several Courts in the Punjab is so heavy that it is fast falling into arrears, a state of affairs which causes great loss to litigants. He is of opinion that Additional District Judges should be appointed to clear off the arrears and bring the work up to date. He then goes on to say that it is a mistake to invest Deputy Commissioners, who are overwhelmed with executive work, with the powers of a District Judge, especially in districts in which Civil work is heavy.

Complaint against the new District Judge of Delhi.

13. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated 15th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that on the 9th idem Mr. Ellis, the new District Judge of Delhi, directed his Chaprási to put into a tub full of water the shoes taken off by litigants in his Court room. After they had been soaked in water the shoes were ordered to be thrown out into the Court compound. The next day those who went into Mr. Ellis' Court room with their shoes on and took them off previous to appearing before him, had the shoes seized and were ordered to call for them two days later. In other words, these men were told to go back barefooted and return to the District Judge's Court in the same condition two days later. These proceedings, says the writer, have created quite a sensation in Delhi and various interpretations are being put on them. He urges Government to call for an explanation from Mr. Ellis.

(b)—Police.

The Indian Police.

14. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 9th (received on the 22nd) May 1902, remarks that Police officials in the Purjab, in fact throughout India, are generally looked down upon as unreliable, and the investigations made by them in Criminal cases carry little or no weight with the Courts. It should, however, be borne in mind that so far no hard-and-fast rules have been framed for the guidance of the Police in working out cases, and that only God can lay claim to omniscience. Again, every Police official seems to be under the impression that he can receive promotion and earn a good name only by securing convictions in as many cases *chálaned* by him as he can. And in the attainment of this object he is frequently guilty of acts, the commission of which not only makes a criminal of him, but serves to bring the entire Police Department into disrepute. The Editor is, therefore, of opinion that the "no conviction no promotion" rule is at the bottom of the evil, and that there should be some other

way of testing the efficiency of Police officials. He then admits that the allegation regarding the members of the Police force trumping up false cases is not wholly unfounded; but he contends that they do so mainly to supplement their salaries which are insufficient for their maintenance.

The same.

15. The same paper says that if the Police cannot work out cases successfully, if they fail to run down dakaits and absconding criminals in all instances and if they prefer false charges against innocent persons, they alone are not to blame for this. A part of the blame attaches to the people, for they do not co-operate with the Police and abstain from putting them on the track of criminals. The Editor knows of cases in which highly respectable persons have afforded protection to *badmáshes* and thereby frustrated the ends of justice. He adds that however honest a Police official may be at first, the people throw such temptations in his way that he can very seldom resist them.

The same.

16. The same paper of the 16th May 1902 remarks that the Police Department has been declining in efficiency since the entry of Civilians into it. These officers, alleges the Editor, are usually ignorant of the responsibilities of Police officials, as well as of the manners and customs of the people; and this frequently leads them to treat the said officials in so harsh a manner as to prove detrimental to Police administration. He then refers to the rumour that the next Inspector-General of Police in the Punjab will be a Civilian, and calls upon Police Officers to get the forthcoming Police Commission to reserve the post for them.

The same.

17. The same paper says that the members of the Police force have so many duties to perform and are so low-paid that very few persons care to enter the Department. Indeed, the majority of Police Constables are usually men who fail to get into the Army, while amongst the Officers are to be found gentlemen who cannot secure employment anywhere else. After remarking that educated natives do not care to join the Police, as they can do better in other Departments, the Editor asserts that so long as Police officials are not given higher salaries and their work is not considerably reduced, the Police service will continue to remain unpopular.

(c).—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

A complaint in connection with the supply of drinking water for the Ráwalpindi City.

18. The *Táj-ul-Akhbár* (Ráwalpindi), of the 17th May 1902, publishes a communication from Badr-ud-dín, a local Barrister, who says that at present drinking water is very scarce in the Ráwalpindi City, and that the insufficiency of the supply in the taps has created a panic amongst the people. He then gives a report of the proceedings of a general meeting of the residents of Ráwalpindi held on the 11th May in the garden of the late Sardár Sujún Singh to draw Government's attention to the inadequacy of the present supply of water for the city.

(d).—Education.

19. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th May 1902, remarks that the Government of India cannot be charged with being ignorant of the advantages of technical education. But it is not easy to see why it takes no steps to encourage that education and create a taste for it in the minds of the people. Probably, says the Editor, want of funds is at the bottom of the indifference displayed by the authorities. He then exhorts the Government of India to shake off its lethargy and do something to make technical education general in the country.

Technical education and the Government of India.

(f).—Railways and Communications.

20. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 13th May 1902, alleges that passengers experience great difficulty in obtaining drinking water at Railway Stations during the hot weather. At present two watermen—one Hindu and the other Muhammadan—are employed at each station to supply water to passengers; but they are wholly unequal to the task, especially as the trains make very short halts. The Editor, therefore, suggests that the number of watermen at Railway Stations should be increased. He is also of opinion that in each train there should be a Railway official, who should see that passengers do not experience difficulty in obtaining drinking water.

Supply of drinking water to Railway passengers.

(h).—Miscellaneous.

21. A correspondent of the *Punjab Samáchár* (Lahore), dated the 10th May 1902, writing about the prevalence of plague in India, states that all persons going to Burma from other parts of the country are made to undergo nine days' quarantine, any one objecting to this being given a taste of the Policeman's baton. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that the quarantine camp, which is only six miles distant from Rangoon, is a commodious and comfortable place. Arrangements for the supply of food to its inmates are also all that could be desired. The only complaint the writer has to make is that females, even when they are accompanied by their male relations, have to go out to receive their daily rations. The practice of requiring them to undergo medical examination by male doctors in a public manner is also objectionable, and self-respecting and *parda-nishin* ladies cannot put up with it. The practice should, therefore, suggests the correspondent, be discontinued without delay, the examination being conducted by lady doctors.

The plague.

22. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 17th May 1902, approves of the sentence of two years' rigorous imprisonment passed against the two plague officials recently tried in the Court of the City Magistrate, Hoshiárpur, on a charge of extortion.

The same.

23. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 17th May 1902, writing on the same subject, remarks that it was officials of the prisoners' stamp who brought Government's old plague administration into discredit.

The same.

24. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 16th May 1902, complains that subordinates in Civil Offices are promoted not according to seniority but according to the whim of presiding officers. Some of these officials are constantly being promoted, while others continue to draw the same salaries for 20 or 30 years.

Promotion in Civil Offices.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Curson Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd May 1902, says that it has decided to open a subscription list for the Hedjaz Railway. The subscriptions received will be deposited in a Bank at Allahabad and remitted to Turkey by instalments. The Editor then acknowledges receipt of a sum of Rs. 15-9-0 from Rangoon through one Fahim Ulla.

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	9,402	2	11
Small subscriptions	52	5	0
Total ...	9,454	7	11

The same.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand ...	1,065	15	3
(1) Sayad Ghulam Mustafa, a land-owner in the Central Provinces	100	0	0
(2) Small subscriptions	86	4	0
Total ...	1,252	3	3

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The Watan.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 16th May ...	1,348	13	0
Small subscriptions	96	7	0
Total ...	1,445	4	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	3,800	5	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	5,245	9	10

III.—NATIVE STATES.

Bahawalpur affairs.

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th May 1902, says that it has received a communication from Patiala the writer of which alleges that the highly-placed Settlement Officers in the Bahawalpur State being incompetent, all settlement records are lying incomplete. He also complains that the Muharrirs employed for measuring lands receive no pay from the public treasury and that the State subjects are forced to pay these officials. As, however, the *zamindars* usually shirk such payments, not a few Muharrirs desert their posts, burning their measurement papers or taking them away with them. The Editor calls upon the State authorities to enquire into the matter.

IV.—KINE KILLING.

The Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

6. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, publishes two communications the writers of which support the suggestion to commemorate the Coronation by prohibiting the slaughter of kine in India. They add that the concession will be valued as long as there is a Hindu in the country and agriculture forms the chief means of support of the people.

V.—NATIVE SOCIETIES AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

The Delhi Darbar and the Arya Samaj.

7. A correspondent of the *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 23rd May 1902, refers to the proposal to distribute tracts about the Vedic religion on the occasion of the coming Delhi Darbar, and says that the best plan would be to distribute copies of Swami Dayanand's *Sattiarth Parkash*. He is of opinion that 10,000 copies of the book should be printed in the Hindi, Persian and Gurmukhi characters, so that it may be read by the *Raises* from Rajputana, the rich men from the United Provinces and the Punjabi rajas and soldiers present at Delhi on the occasion. The writer would also suggest that the *Parkash* should be translated into English and copies of the translation distributed to the English-speaking gentlemen assembled to witness the Darbar. He then requests the Pritinidhi Sabha of the Arya Samaj to collect money to carry out his suggestions.

8. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 21st May 1902, remarks that some time back the newspapers drew Lord Curzon's attention to the fact that the next 'Id-ul-Fitr falls on the 1st January 1903, and that the time fixed for holding the Delhi Darbar clashed with that at which Muhammadans were to say their 'Id prayers. The Editor is gratified to learn that His Excellency has decided to hold the Darbar in the afternoon instead of in the morning as originally proposed.

The Delhi Darbar and the coming 'Id-ul-Fitar.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer refers to the immoral practices of the Mahants who have jagirs in the Amritsar District, and says it is high time that Government took steps to put a stop to this state of affairs. He then alleges that Mahant Sewa Das and his Agent, as well as Mahants Bishambar Parshad and Kirpal Das, have been squandering the incomes from their jagirs in debauchery.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

VI.—Legislation.

10. Tika Krishan Chandra, a Rais of Sirmur, writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, suggests that the martial races of India should be exempted from the operations of the Arms Act in honor of the Coronation. This, says the writer, would render it easier for Government to find experienced and brave men to fight for it in times of emergency.

The Coronation and the Arms Act.

VII.—General Administation.

(a)—Judicial.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th May 1902, remarks that if the practice of appointing only Military Officers to the post of Cantonment Magistrate were abandoned the difficulty now experienced in filling these appointments would cease. The Editor suggests that Cantonment Magistrates should be selected from among the members of the Indian Civil Service, and says that the adoption of his suggestion would prove highly beneficial to the interests of the (native) residents of Cantonments.

Appointment of Cantonment Magistrates.

(b)—Police.

12. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th May 1902, expresses profound regret for having published in its issue of the 8th April last a communication in which certain serious charges were preferred against the local Police Constables (*vide* paragraph 21 of the Selections No. 15). The Editor is convinced that his correspondent must have had some grudge against the Constables, for, if his allegations were true, he would have mentioned the names of those who had gambled away their pay or were suspected of having picked locks in order to repay their debts. After apologising for having published the communication, the Editor promises that in future he will abstain from giving publicity to writings containing unfounded allegations.

A contradiction.

13. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, says that it has received several complaints to the effect that not infrequently outsiders who can secure recommendations are appointed Sergeants and Deputy Inspectors of Police over the heads of deserving men already in the Police Department, with the result that in each district there are a number of Police officials who have received no promotion for years past. The evil, alleges the Editor, is specially rampant in the Ferozepore District; and the Inspector-General of Police, Punjab, should look into the matter without delay.

Jobbery in the Police Department.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

14. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 24th May 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 18 of the Selections No. 21), says that the Rawalpindi City continues to suffer from a scarcity of water. The taps are always empty after 8 A.M., while in the evening the water is turned on for only two or three hours. On the other hand, alleges the Editor, the taps in the Cantonment are never without water, although the majority of its principal residents are absent in Kashmir or at Murree or Simla. He then suggests that the Municipal Committee should supply water to the Cantonment and the City in equal quantities.

Scarcity of drinking water in the Rawalpindi City.

15. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th May 1902, says that charges of bribery and corruption having been preferred against Mr. Gardener in its columns in an open manner, the local Municipal Committee ought to have called upon that gentleman to resign his appointment or clear his character by prosecuting the Editor. Nothing of the kind, however, has been done. It may be added that at a recent meeting of the Committee, Babu Kanahya Lal brought forward a proposal to the above effect and was supported by another Municipal Commissioner. A third gentleman, however, who is angling for the title of Rai Bahadur, opposed the proposal and remarked that the writings in the *Ahluwalia Gazette* are always devoid of truth, and that consequently its charges against Mr. Gardener were unworthy of notice. This view of the question prevailed and Babu Kanahya Lal's proposal was dropped. After remarking that he has never disregarded truth in his writings, the Editor repeats, for the benefit of the new Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar, the charge that the present Secretary to the local Municipality is partial to the Contractor whom he brought with him from Mooltan.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

16. The same paper alleges that some time back Mr. Gardener had some permit forms, required for the Amritsar Octroi Office, printed at a Press owned by one Ghulam Muhammad, Akhtar, of Kalanaur, and that the latter has submitted a bill for a little under Rs. 400 on account of printing charges, &c. The work is not worth more than Rs. 125 or Rs. 150; but if the Secretary is in collusion with Ghulam Muhammad and wishes to loot octroi money, that is quite another matter. After promising to reveal later the reason why

The same.

Mr. Gardener is partial to the Proprietor of the above Press and pays him at higher rates than those demanded by other presses, the Editor alleges that recently Ghulam Muhammad was given some printing work in connection with the District Board, and that he has charged Rs. 470 for it, although the *Wasir-i-Hind* Press used to do the same work for Rs. 50 or Rs. 55. It is, besides, inexplicable why the lucky individual in question should be given printing work in English when he owns no English printing-press.

The same.

17. The same paper of the 24th May 1902 opposes the proposal to grant Mr. Gardener a reward of Rs. 500 on the grounds already advanced by it (*vide* paragraph 22 of the Selections No. 19). The Editor then alleges that the Secretary has given Siraj-ud-din, Accountant, and Ganeshi Lal, Muharrir, allowances of Rs. 10 and Rs. 15, respectively without the sanction of the Municipality.

(d)—Education.

The University Commission and the study of Persian.

18. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer refers to the exclusion of the study of Persian from the B. A. Class in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, and says that this is calculated to retard the development of Urdu, the *lingua franca* of India, as also to prove an obstacle in the way of the education of the Muhammadans of those Provinces. He, therefore, expresses the hope that in his resolution on the University Commission's Report, Lord Curzon will pay due regard to the claims of Persian, and thereby lay the Musalman population of India under a deep debt of gratitude.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government officials and the rural population.

19. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 16th May 1902, publishes a translation of an article headed "Over-government in the Punjab" which appeared in a recent issue of the *Pioneer* and which showed that the residents of villages in the Province were seized with trembling at the very sight of Government officials. The Editor would, however, point out that what is true of the Punjab is equally so of other parts of India. He then regrets that whenever educated natives refer to this deplorable state of affairs, the Anglo-Indian press hastens to charge them with creating estrangement between the people and Government. The experience gained by the authorities in connection with the plague administration has, however, opened their eyes to the fact that it is not the educated but the masses who regard Government with suspicion. Indeed, the common people have begun to say to one another that Government cares only for their money, and that its officials are leeches who suck the blood out of their already emaciated bodies. And this state of affairs is due to the people being oppressed so needlessly that a sepoy has more respect in the eyes of Government than the greatest *Rais* in the country. The Editor then goes on to say that a *zamindar*, whose interests seldom extend beyond his own village, experiences nothing of the sympathy and benevolence which are the guiding principles of the British Government in India. Every official who visits his village sucks his life-blood, while

every order issued by Government touches his pocket. It is not, therefore, surprising that he should distrust Government. The *Pioneer* suggests that only such officials should be allowed to visit villages as are honest in their treatment of the rural population. For a Government servant to be honest, however, it is essential that he should be well paid; and if he is dishonest, he should be severely punished and not sheilded by Government.

A complaint in connection with the grant of land on the Jhelum Canal.

20. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, says that it has received a very strongly-worded letter from a certain *Zaildar* in the Gujrat District, who complains that the notice issued by Government regarding the grant of land on the Jhelum Canal has proved the ruin of hundreds of persons. He alleges that it was laid down in this notice that those who presented (? offered to maintain for Government use) more than one mare to Government would receive grants of land on the Canal. This led persons owning from five to seven *ghumaos* of land to sell off their holdings, buy mares with the proceeds and present the animals to Government. Hundreds of these persons, however, have been given no land on the Canal and are cursing * * * * (? Government) for the ruin which has overtaken them. The correspondent then suggests that the *Zaildars* and *Sufedposhes* who have rendered valuable service should be granted land on the Jhelum Canal.

The poverty of the *zamindars* of the Dera Ghazi Khan District.

21. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer states that the *zamindars* in the Dera Ghazi Khan District are a poverty-stricken lot and that all their holdings are mortgaged to local money-lenders. To make matters worse, since the passing of the Land Alienation Act the *Sahukars* have had thousands of *zamindars* ousted from their lands, and these luckless individuals are wandering about homeless and do not know how to support themselves. The correspondent is of opinion that the authorities should do something to put these unfortunate *zamindars* in possession of their lands.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

22. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), in its issue of the 23rd May 1902, alleges that the other day a friend of his had occasion to travel from Delhi to Aligarh. He purchased an Intermediate Class ticket; but on the arrival of the train at Delhi he found that he had to travel in a Third Class carriage labelled "Intermediate." Such treatment of Intermediate passengers, says the Editor, is unjustifiable, since it deprives them of the privileges to enjoy which they pay a higher fare. He adds that his friend also complains that the number of watermen employed at the stations between Delhi and Aligarh is insufficient for the requirements of passenge rs, and that at none of the stations is pure drinking water to be had.

The same.

23. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 17th May 1902, alleges that the booking office at the Batala Station is opened only a few minutes before the arrival of a train, and that even then the passengers at the ticket window experience great diffi-

culty in purchasing their tickets, the Booking Clerk looking first to the wants of his friends and acquaintances who go straight into the office. This, says the Editor, is a source of great inconvenience to passengers, some of whom are frequently left behind. He also complains that no special arrangements are made at the station for the sale of tickets to Intermediate class or female passengers, and that there is no separate gate through which these passengers can get on to the platform.

(g)—Postal matters.

A grievance of the postmen attached to the Gurdaspur Post Office.

24. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 17th May 1902, understands that some of the postmen attached to the Gurdaspur Post Office have not been paid for certain months of 1901 up to the present. The Editor also learns that in order to make up the deficiency (*sic.*) more postmen than one have been made to refund two months' pay. After requesting the Postal authorities to look into the matter, the Editor calls upon the postmen who have been treated as described above, and whose representations on the subject have received no consideration, to communicate with him to enable him to bring their grievances to the notice of the Post-master-General, Punjab.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Delhi Darbar and the Editors of Indian Newspapers.

25. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th May 1902, suggests that the Editors of those newspapers of which the circulation is very small or those journalists whose position in society is low and who do not pay an income-tax of Rs. 10 a year should not be invited to the Proclamation Darbar at Delhi. The paper is of opinion that only selected Editors—whose number, however, should not exceed fifty—should be invited, and Local Governments should be asked to make the selections at the earliest possible date, no journalist whose social position in his Province is not very high being selected for the honor.

Plague and famine in India.

26. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 16th May 1902, publishes a communication from one Ram Nath of Kartarpur in the Jullundur District, who, after referring to the havoc wrought in India by the plague, says that the sinful and "un-Vedic" life led by the people is responsible for such visitations. He adds that kine-slaughter is at the bottom of the frequent appearance of famine in the country, and exhorts natives to do something to remedy the evil.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—7-6-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 23.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 7th June 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 22.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 7th June 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

Egypt, Turkey and the union of Muhammadans.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1902, says that some time back Reuter sent a cablegram to India to the effect that the Khedive contemplated setting himself up as the Caliph of Muhammadans. The Editor remarked at the time that this was only a canard, and his opinion has been confirmed by the *Egyptian*, a newspaper published in English at Alexandria. This paper observes that an event like the above could not take place without Egypt going to war with Turkey, which the Khedive's subjects are incapable of doing. The Editor then goes on to say that the *Egyptian's* remarks regarding the movement for a union of the Prophet's followers throughout the world are misleading. It is mistaken in stating that Lord Beaconsfield was the first man to suggest the idea of such a movement, and that the suggestion was really taken up by the present Sultan of Turkey. It is an open secret that all far-seeing predecessors of His Majesty were desirous of such a union, and, with this object in view, sent their emissaries to Morocco, Java, Bengal, &c. Indeed, no ruler of Turkey, of howsoever luxurious and indolent habits, has been totally indifferent to the matter. Nor has the Islamic world ever cut itself wholly adrift from Turkey, for otherwise the late Sultan Abdul Majid's message to the Indian Muhammadans at the time of the Sepoy Mutiny would not have proved of much help in quelling the rising.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 26th May 1902, publishes a communication from one S'adad Din Haidar, a Mukhtar of Delhi, who reports that at a general meeting of the Muhammadan residents of that city held at the house of Mirza Akbar Ali Beg on the 11th May it was resolved to appoint a local Committee to

collect subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway Fund. Soon after this Hasan Khan, Effendi, who has been deputed by the Sherif of Mecca to induce Indian Muhammadans to give money for the above railway, paid a visit to Delhi; and advantage was taken of the event to hold another meeting on the 18th May, at the house of Hakim Ghulam Raza Khan, in the interests of the projected railway. About Rs. 1,069 were subscribed at the two meetings, and it is hoped that a substantial sum of money will be collected in Delhi. The writer then reports the proceedings of the second meeting.

The same. 3. The same paper in its issues of the 26th and 30th May 1902 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	9,454	7	11
Small subscriptions	107	12	0
Total ...	9,562	3	11

Th same. 4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
	Balance in hand on the 23rd May ...	1,445	4	0
(1)	Received through Mian Abdur Rahman, Biswadar, Abohar, Ferozepore District	628	0	0
(2)	Small subscriptions	96	13	0
	Total ...	2,170	1	0
	Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	3,800	5	10
	GRAND TOTAL ...	5,970	6	10

III.—NATIVE STATES.

Suket affairs. 5. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 31st May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the Raja of Suket's subjects, properly so-called, have never complained and will never complain against His Highness, for their ruler is a successful administrator and does not spare himself in the discharge of his duties. Those who have been complaining against Dusht Nikandan Sain to Mr. Anderson or in the press are certain *Mians*, who, although many of them are the sons of slave-girls, presume on their relation-

ship to the reigning family, are proud and haughty in the extreme, look upon themselves as the equals of the Raja, and never miss an opportunity to do His Highness a bad turn. One of these persons, a Mian Janmeji, has thrown off the mask and admits that the communications published in the *Ahluwalia Gazette* against the Chief of Suket come from his pen. These communications, the writer in the *Hamdard-i-Hind* declares, are wholly devoid of truth.

Kashmir affairs.

6. The same paper, of the 24th May 1902, remarks that the present deplorable condition of the Kashmir State is due to the incompetency of the Maharaja's Ministers and the existence of differences between the members of the reigning family. The Editor adds that while the late Ruler of the Happy Valley wielded the full powers of a government, the present Maharaja cannot make an appointment on Rs. 5 a month. The state is administered by a Council, and His Highness draws a fixed allowance and wastes his time in objectionable pursuits.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The Coronation and kine-killing in India.

7. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st June 1902, refers to the report that the Cow Protection Society of Nagpur has sent a marble statue of a cow to England in connection with the Coronation in order to induce the King-Emperor to forbid the slaughter of kine in India. The Editor heartily sympathises with the object the Society has in view; still he cannot overlook the fact that the question of kine-slaughter in this country has been considered by Government more than once, but that so far it has led to no favourable results (? for the Hindus). He also points out that the practice of killing the cow has been prevalent in India for centuries past, and that it is the duty of Government to pay due regard to the religious feelings of every section of its native subjects. After remarking that it is enjoined on Muhammadans to sacrifice specified quadrupeds, the Editor observes that the cow supplies several wants of man, that its hide is specially noted for durability, and that man being the noblest of created beings can put to his use animals which minister to his wants. He then goes on to say that bullocks are used so mercilessly that their sufferings are far greater than those which slaughter entails on cows. In conclusion, he ironically suggests that the above Society should do something to make the lot of bullocks less hard.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A complaint against native Judicial Officers.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1902, says that only two or three days after taking charge of his post the new Judge of the local Small Cause Court issued an order prohibiting lawyers and all other persons from entering his court-room unless called in. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that on being informed that the order entailed considerable inconvenience on litigants, &c.,

he withdrew it the same day. The Editor then goes on to say that while certain native newspapers are in the habit of raising an outcry over the most trivial shortcomings on the part of European Magistrates and Judges, they wholly overlook the proud and ungentlemanly bearing of native Judicial Officers. This, he observes, is the more regrettable as some of the native members of the judiciary look upon the people as worse than animals. He adds that such behaviour on the part of these officers is due to Government paying more regard to educational qualifications than to respectability of birth in the matter of appointments to the public service, and keeping no watch over the doings and conduct of its officials.

(b)—Police.

The Indian Police.

9. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1902, remarks that the Police are very unpopular in the country, and that the people distrust the force and consider it the cause of all their miseries. The guardians of the public peace in India, adds the Editor, are also in the bad books of Government. After remarking that they cannot be saddled with the entire blame for this state of affairs, he exhorts the public to look upon the police as its well wishers and cease regarding them with contempt. He also calls upon the Police authorities to treat their subordinates in a sympathetic manner.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Sialkot Municipal affairs.

10. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th May 1902, understands that Lala Nihal Chand, a Municipal Commissioner at Sialkot, has asked Chaudhri Nasrullah Khan, Vice-President of the local Municipality, to issue a *rubakar* directing all Municipal servants to have nothing to do with Municipal elections. The Editor reminds the Lala and the Chaudhri that they have not the power to issue such orders, and that if they do so the whole country will cry shame on them. They may, he adds, secure the summary dismissal of a servant of the Municipality or get the complaints against another suppressed; but they should remember that their doings are certain to come to the notice of the present vigilant Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab, and that His Honor may be relied on to take steps to put an end to the inconvenience to which the public and the Municipal employés at Sialkot are being subjected through them. After remarking that Government cannot consent to the people's rights in connection with Municipal elections being curtailed, the Editor observes that the aforesaid illegal orders will facilitate the dismissal of all servants of the Municipality whose relations happen to oppose any of the Municipal Commissioners. Nor is this all. They are calculated to deprive the Sialkot public of the liberty of action now enjoyed by them in connection with Municipal elections. It is therefore to be hoped that the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. Tollinton, will look into the matter.

11. The same paper says that the report that at a meeting of the Sialkot Municipality held on the 23rd May Lala Nihal Chand threatened and abused Abnashi Ram, Reader in the Municipal Office, and falsely accused the latter of having destroyed certain files has created a sensation in the city. The Lala, observes the Editor, had no right to treat the Reader in this manner: if he considered that official to blame in any way, he ought to have made a report on the subject. It is therefore to be hoped that the Deputy Commissioner will take steps to prevent Municipal employés from being disgraced in this way.

The same.

12. The same paper complains that while Chaudhri Nasrullah Khan, Vice-President of the Sialkot Municipality, takes no notice of petitions, however reasonable and well-founded they may be, submitted by other people, he orders instant inquiries into those received from Mela Ram, an informer (*mukhbar*), although the only object of these may be to injure or intimidate somebody. The people, alleges the Editor, are greatly exercised about this, and if a breach of the public peace ensues, the Chaudhri alone will be to blame for it. He then enquires why, if the Vice-President looks with an equal eye on both Hindus and Muhammadans, he took no action on the petitions submitted to the Deputy Commissioner by Gokal Chand and Vir Bhan, banias, and sent to him for inquiry. Was it because the enquiry was calculated to prove injurious to the interests of certain friends of the Chaudhri's ?

The same.

13. The same paper alleges that objectionable means have been resorted to in order to ensure approval of the report submitted by the Sub-Committee concerned regarding certain servants of the Sialkot Municipality under suspension. Finding that their exposure was imminent, the members of the Committee waited on all Municipal Commissioners and induced some of them who knew nothing of the contents of the report to signify their approval of it in writing. After remarking that the servants of a Municipality of which the members are of this stamp cannot hope to receive justice, the Editor calls upon Mr. Tollinton, Mr. Younghusband and Sir Chales Rivaz to look into the matter.

A complaint in connection with the supply of pipe-water in Lahore.

14. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains about the Municipality's arrangements for the supply of water and asserts that water is not available at the hours when Muhammadans say their prayers. The water tax has, notwithstanding, been considerably enhanced and made payable in advance.

The same.

15. Commenting on the above, the Editor says that the want of water in the taps in the early morning is a source of annoyance to the Hindus also, who have to say their *Sandhya* at that time.

16. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 31st May 1902, also complains about the insufficiency of water and the excessive water tax.

The same.

17. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 28th May 1902, is greatly pleased to learn that Munshi Nur-ud-din has again been appointed Conservancy Darogha of Lahore. The Munshi, says the Editor, is an experienced and tactful official, and his appointment has given satisfaction to all classes of the people.

Re-appointment of Munshi Nur-ud-din as Conservancy Darogha of Lahore.

18. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that no Municipality in the hands of toadies can work satisfactorily, and that in their anxiety to please the authorities the majority of native Municipal Commissioners adopt measures calculated to subject the people to inconvenience. He then alleges that a few days back he brought to Allahabad five to seven seers of melons from Lucknow, and that on leaving the train at the former station he was made to go to an octroi post in order to pay *half a pice* on account of octroi on the melons. After remarking that the Municipal Committee of Allahabad connot hope to realize any very large sum of money from such collections, he suggests that the Committee should employ persons to beg money for it.

A complaint against the Allahabad Municipality.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

19. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1902, writing about the recent imposition of a corn tax in England, says that in future the grain-dealers concerned will pay the British Exchequer about £ 125,000 a year on account of tax on wheat annually imported into that country from India. The Editor is aware that the entire burden will be borne by his British fellow-subjects; still he is convinced that the imposition of the tax is certain to lead to a falling-off in the import of wheat from India into England and thereby affect the price of that commodity in a manner injurious to the *zamindars*. He observes that the entire profits realized owing to food stuffs being sold at high prices are not pocketed by grain-dealers, but that a part thereof falls to the share of agriculturists.

How the recent imposition of a corn tax in England will effect Indian Agriculturists.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

20. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 31st May 1902, complains that owing to rupees coined in 1840 not being accepted at Railway Stations passengers are subjected to great inconvenience. He suggests that these rupees should either be withdrawn from circulation or ordered to be accepted as a legal tender.

Railways, and rupees coined in 1840.

21. Commenting on the above the Editor supports the suggestion and says that Government's instructions directing Indian Railways not to decline to accept these rupees seem to have produced no effect.

The same.

(g)—Postal matters.

22. The *Koh-i-Nur* (Lahore), of the 27th May 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that Postmasters and Sub-Postmasters are specially enjoined to treat the people with courtesy. Some of these officials, however, are in the habit of using harsh language towards those having dealings with their offices. The Postmaster at Banja, adds the correspondent, is an official of this stamp and treats people who go to the post office on business in an inconsiderate manner.

Complaint against the Postmaster, Banga.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

23. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th May 1902, says that famine and plague have claimed more victims in India than a hundred year's war between England and Russia over this country would have done. Again, the pecuniary loss they have inflicted on the people represents an amount far in excess of the whole cost of the Transvaal War. The plague has, however, brought greater troubles on India than famine, and everything connected with the pestilence has been going from bad to worse. If, adds the Editor, the measures originally adopted by the authorities to stamp out the disease were rigorous in the extreme, the present plague policy of Government is characterised by profound indifference. The people never attacked Government's motives in combating the plague, and the riots at Bombay, Cawnpore, &c., were due to the oppression practised by the dishonest among plague officials. Instead, therefore, of leaving the people to shift for themselves, the authorities ought to have removed the defects in the plague administration. And had this been done and more strict supervision exercised over dishonest and immoral plague officials, the epidemic would not have spread to all parts of the country. The Editor then deprecates Government's capriciousness in changing its plague policy, and regrets that it should have shirked its duty of alleviating the sufferings of its subjects. He is of opinion that if Government can save even one life it ought to put forth all its energies and spend money like water to do so. As it is, it does absolutely nothing to help the relations of victims of plague in saving their lives, while the indifference displayed by it in regard to sanitation is very deplorable.

Famine and plague in India.

24. The same paper remarks that although the plague has broken out in Amritsar, those who are in a position to devise means to stamp it out seem loath to bestir themselves. The Editor adds that some time back the local Munici-

The plague.

pality made an additional grant of money to improve the sanitation of the City, but that so far no improvement is observable, although it is possible that the amount may have been already spent. He then complains that the City Fathers not only fail to look to the sanitation of their respective wards, but have appropriated to their own use the phenyle made over to them for distribution to their constituents.

The same.

25. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 24th May 1902, publishes a report of a discourse by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who, in the course of his remarks, compares the bubonic plague to an angel sent down from heaven with a special mission. He adds that the appearance of the plague in the country is the result of the people having rejected him and been engaged in sinful practices, and that the only remedy for the disease is repentance and the performance of good deeds. The Mirza also alleges that, because of his presence in Kadian, God has rendered the whole of that village immune from the pestilence.

Assessment of income tax.

26. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 30th May 1902, remarks that a great deal of dissatisfaction exists regarding the assessment of income tax. Traders and other persons not in Government service complain that they are over-assessed, and there seems to be some truth in this, seeing that the statements of their incomes filed by them are not relied upon and the tax is assessed in an arbitrary manner. The Editor then urges Sir Charles Rivaz to appoint a Commission to enquire into the present methods of assessing income tax and remove the defects to be found in the system.

The *Ahluwalia Gazette*.

27. The *Shokh* (Amritsar), of the 25th May 1902, remarks that the *Ahluwalia Gazette* is running down everybody in Amritsar and that no person's *izzat* is safe in its hands. The employés of the local Octroi and Municipal Offices are specially abused in its columns, and this is perhaps due to the fact that its Manager, Lala Balwant Rai, once worked as a candidate in the former office, but was turned out in disgrace. The *Gazette*, adds the Editor, has of late been publishing false and unfounded charges against the Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality, and has more than once asked why Mr. Gardener does not clear himself by prosecuting the paper. It may be asked in return which among the hundreds who have been abused in the *Gazette* has thought it worth while to prosecute it. Indeed, no respectable person will stoop to move the law against a newspaper of the character of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*, and it is for this reason that Colonel Jwala Singh, the Amritsar Mahants, &c., have taken no notice of its writings. The Editor then goes on to say that the *Gazette* charges Mr. Gardener with showing undue favors to Contractor Ghulam Mohai-ud-din; but it should be remembered that Ghulam Mohai-ud-din is a big and reliable contractor and undertakes only large works. And there being no such contractor at Amritsar, it is not surprising that Ghulam Mohai-ud-din should

have been sent for from Multan. The Editor further remarks that the Deputy Commissioner should make enquiries as to how confidential information pertaining to the Municipal Office is imparted to the *Ahluwalia Gazette*.

Arrangements to supply medical aid to women at Delhi.

28. The *Khair Khwah-i-Hind* (Delhi), of the 1st June 1902, remarks that the existing arrangements to supply medical aid to the female residents of Delhi are far from satisfactory and that the two Lady Doctors in the city are unable to cope with the work. As a consequence of this the people are obliged to have recourse to illiterate and inexperienced *dais*, who work more mischief than good. The Editor then regrets that the Lady Dufferin Hospital, which has been in existence for years past, should not so far have turned out a dozen competent Lady Doctors.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—12-6-02—70.

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The termination of the Boer War.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th June 1902, after expressing satisfaction at the cessation of war in South Africa, remarks that, although the terms of peace have not yet been published in detail, there can be no doubt that Lords Kitchener and Milner must have, as far as possible, treated the Boers leniently. It should, however, be borne in mind that this leniency is due not so much to any innate sense of generosity in the officers named as to the fact that the King-Emperor, the Ministry and the British nation were very desirous of terminating the war before the Coronation. The Editor then goes on to say that the struggle in South Africa has made it clear to the world that the present race of Englishmen are not inferior to their forefathers in courage and perseverance, as is testified to by the fortitude and patience displayed by them in connection with the reverses suffered by the British Army in the early days of the campaign. The war has also shown that all the dependencies of Great Britain are sincerely attached to the person and throne of the King-Emperor. After remarking that British rule is popular with every nationality under it, and that it is conducted on lines calculated to make Great Britain's subjects loyal to her, the Editor says that the help rendered to her by the Crown Colonies during the war has impressed foreign countries with her unparalleled greatness. He adds that the campaign has further proved that the British soldier is as brave and obedient as ever, and that he still possesses all those soldierly qualities which were witnessed at Waterloo and Balaklava. There can, however, be no doubt that British Military Officers are not as conversant with the modern science of war as their *confreres* on the Continent.

Turkey and Christian journalists.

2. One Muhammad Mahbub-ul-Rahman, writing to the same paper, says that some Christian journalists in Europe have made it a point to miss no opportunity of running down and injuring Muhammadans and their rulers and kingdoms. These journalists are always on the look out for something to the discredit of

the Prophet's followers, publishing the same to the world magnified a thousand-fold and clothed in smart language. This is especially true of their treatment of Turkey, witness the misstatements made by them concerning its people, ruler and administration at the time of the Armenian risings and the Græco-Turkish War of 1897. The correspondent then goes on to say that a writer in the *Independent Belge* has recently accused the Porte of bigotry and of being averse to taking non-Muhammadans into the service of Turkey. The fact, however, that the Turkish Ambassadors in both Beligum and England are Christians affords sufficient refutation of the accusation. The number of Musalmans holding high and responsible appointments in all the Christian countries of Europe is not even half that of Christ's followers appointed to similar posts in "bigoted" Turkey; while no Muslim represents a Christian kingdom at the Court of any European ruler. The writer can, therefore, assert without fear of contradiction that of all the countries of the world Turkey is the one which is least swayed by feelings of bigotry and in which merit meets with its fullest reward.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	9,562	3	11
Small subscriptions	135	0	0
Total ...	9,697	3	11

The same.

4. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15	10	0
Kasim and others of Rangoon	5	0	0
Total ...	20	10	0

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Amir's Envoy in India.

5. The *Gham Khwar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 7th June 1902, remarks that some time back the *Curzon Gazette* published a paragraph to the effect that Muhammad Ismail, the Afghan Envoy at Simla, had been recalled and that he had been accused by the Amir of having misappropriated hundreds of rupees belonging to His Highness' Government, while his conduct also was not above suspicion. The Editor copied the news into his paper of the 10th May last; but on enquiry he has found that the above statement is entirely false and without foundation. He is, therefore, exceedingly sorry that he should have reprinted a paragraph calculated to wound the feelings of Sardar Muhammad Ismail Khan. He also advises the *Curzon Gazette* to abstain from publishing such false rumours in future.

The same.

6. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 7th June 1902, also publishes a similar contradiction.

7. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th June 1902, remarks that the tribesmen are being represented as barbarians for the reason that when the Pashtu translation of the Viceroy's speech at the recent Darbar at Peshawar was being read their representatives present at the gathering left the Darbar tent to say their prayers. Those who have preferred the above accusation should remember that the independent tribes, who are not sufficiently civilized to look upon religion as an ordinary thing, consider it more imperative to bow before the throne of God than before those of earthly Kings. The Editor then goes on to say that if the tribesmen present at the Darbar did not forego their prayers they can hardly be blamed for this. It is, however, to be regretted that the frontier officers concerned, who have served in that part of the country for so long, should not have known that the time fixed for holding the Darbar clashed with that for afternoon prayers. The Editor then expresses satisfaction at the time for holding the Delhi Darbar having been changed so as not to clash with that for the 'Id prayers, although he is afraid that it will be inconvenient for Muhammadans to travel to Delhi during the month of Ramzan.

The tribesmen and the Viceroy's recent Darbar at Peshawar.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

8. The *Akhbar-i 'Am* (Lahore), of the 7th June 1902, publishes a communication from one Madho Parshad of Landhaura, Saharanpur District, who, writing about the suggestion to commemorate the Coronation by prohibiting the slaughter of kine in India, remarks that before the object in view can be gained it is essential that the consent of Muhammadans should be obtained, for it is unlikely that Government will adopt the suggestion against their wishes. Seeing, however, that the prohibition to slaughter kine is not likely to injure the Prophet's followers in any way, and that it will promote the welfare of the country, not a single sensible Muhammadan can be expected to oppose the suggestion. The writer adds that the proposal, if carried out, will lead to another good result, *viz.*, a union between the Hindus and Muhammadans which would be certain to promote the cause of peace in India. He then suggests that the signatures of the Hindus and Muhammadans in all parts of the country sympathising with the movement should be obtained and a memorial on the subject submitted to the King-Emperor through Local Governments, the money required for the purpose being collected by subscriptions. He adds that were the memorial laid before His Majesty by some Native Chief the chances of success would be still greater.

The Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

9. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st June 1902, remarks that now that a Police Commission is about to sit at Simla those who always emphasize the necessity for Police reforms should reduce their opinions to writing and give publicity to the same. The Editor then endorses a certain Police Officer's opinion that a Police Constable should receive at least Rs. 10 a month and that so long as

The Police Commission.

the salaries of Subordinate Police officials are not increased the appointment even of two District Superintendents and five Inspectors of Police in each district, can avail nothing. Indeed, Police Constables are a low-paid lot, while fines and deductions on account of uniform reduce their income still further. And it is for this reason that some of them resort to bribery and thereby prevent the successful working out of cases.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Complaint against Lala Nihal Chand, a Municipal Commissioner at Sialkot.

10. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st June 1902, publishes a copy of a memorial recently submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor by the residents of Sialkot complaining against Lala Nihal Chand, a local Municipal Commissioner. The memorialists allege that on the occasion of the last Municipal elections the Lala induced the Police to threaten and annoy the people with the object of securing his election against the will of electors, and that he has since been subjecting those who did not vote for him, including their relations, to all sorts of inconvenience. The memorial further asserts that the gentleman named extends the same treatment to the local general public in order to terrorise it. After alleging that of late he has been resorting to extremes in this respect, the document proceeds to remark that Lala Nehal Chand being also the public prosecutor at Sialkot the Deputy Inspectors of Police in the city, whose interest it is to keep him pleased with themselves, are ever ready to take away the *izzat* of the memorialists, who, however, love it more dearly than life or money. The result of this is that the general public as well as the majority of his colleagues on the Municipality are greatly afraid of him. The memorial then goes on to say that the Lala has ordered the local octroi Muharrirs not to grant refunds of octroi to certain residents of the city; while he has in his employ a man named Mela Ram, whom he makes submit a complaint against any person whom he (Nehal Chand) may wish to put to trouble, the enquiries into the complaint being conducted by himself. This, add the memorialists, emboldened Mela Ram to extort money from the people; and on his victims raising an outcry the Deputy Commissioner wrote to the Tahsildar on the subject. In conclusion, they remark that it is almost impossible for the Deputy Commissioner to get at the facts so long as Lala Nihal Chand is Public Prosecutor in the Sialkot District. They, therefore, suggest that the Lala should be transferred to some other place, and assert that if his conduct were inquired into in his absence several startling revelations would be made.

Complaint against the Ferozepore Municipality.

11. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that all the roads in and outside the Ferozepore City are in a very wretched condition and that it is not only difficult but dangerous to drive over some of them. This is especially the case with the road between the Kasuri Chouk and the gate of the same name and running on towards the river. The only road in a satisfactory condition is the one leading to the Courts and the Cantonments, and this because it is frequented by the local authorities. The correspondent then alleges that there are several gaps in the city walls and that although these facilitate the commission of thefts the local Municipality has so far done nothing to have them closed up, notwith-

standing the fact that just at present it has about Rs. 25,000 in hand. After remarking that the sanitation of the city is also being neglected and that the drains are in a filthy condition, he asserts that the deplorable state of affairs described above is due to indifference on the part of the local Municipal Commissioners.

Re-appointment of Munshi Nur-ud-din as Conservancy Darogha at Lahore.

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 31st May 1902, reprints from the local *Sada-i-Hind* a paragraph in which the latter paper expresses satisfaction at the re-appointment, after the lapse of 15 years, of Munshi Nur-ud-din as Conservancy Darogha of Lahore, and remarks that the Munshi having considerable experience of the duties of the above appointment his re-employment is likely to lead to good results, especially now when owing to the fear of the plague greater regard is paid to the sanitation of the city.

(d)—Education.

Muhammadan graduates and the award of State scholarships by the Punjab University.

13. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st June 1902, after remarking that a State scholarship tenable in England is available for award by the Punjab University this year, complains that during the past few years these scholarships have been granted to Hindu graduates exclusively. This, says the Editor, is unjust to Muhammadans, especially as deserving Muhammadan graduates have been forthcoming on each occasion. He adds that Muhammadan graduates remain unsuccessful merely because the majority of the members of the Sub-Committee entrusted with the award of State scholarships are Hindus. In conclusion, the Editor expresses the hope that on the present occasion due regard will be paid to the claims of M. Abdul Aziz, M.A., who obtained more marks in the M. A. Examination than any other candidate appearing at it during the past two years.

A suggestion regarding more frequent transfers among Village School Masters.

14. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), dated 2nd June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that the teachers of Primary Schools who are retained in one place for 15 or 20 years together contract the habit of poking their noses into the private affairs of the people and paying little or no regard to the education of their pupils. Besides, they have reprehensible dealings with the students and their parents and thus manage to save the whole of their pay. Again, on the occasion of every harvest they receive hundreds of maunds of grain from the zamindar boys reading in their schools on the ground that the latter pay no tuition fee. The Editor adds that the inordinately long stay of Village School Masters at one place is at the bottom of the state of affairs described above. He therefore suggests that teachers should be transferred from one place to another every third or fourth year.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Contradiction of a complaint against Raja Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot.

15. A correspondent writing to the *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st June 1902, says that a local print complains that a certain highly-placed officer at Sialkot spends the greater part of his time on tour; that while his tour programme refers to one part of the district he actually visits

quite a different part; and that the cases of poor litigants who (as ordered) present themselves at the places named in the programme are filed by him in default! The complaint, says the correspondent, refers to Raja Atta Ullah Khan; but the paper under reference should not have lost sight of the fact that a Revenue Officer has to spend at least half his time on tour. Besides, the Raja was not to blame for the changes in his programme of tour from the 1st February to the 15th May last. These were necessitated by the visits to Sialkot of the Commissioner and the Colonization Officer (? of Lyallpur) and owing to the Raja having been ordered to inspect first the rabi crops and then certain villages in the different tahsils in connection with the suspension of the realizations of the land revenue. As for the complaint that sudden changes in tour programmes lead to cases being filed in default, there is no truth in it. Those litigants who, owing to the dates fixed for the hearing of their cases being near at hand cannot be informed of these changes are allowed three or four days' grace during which they can manage to attend the Court. In conclusion, the writer remarks that the Raja is a gentlemen and thoroughly impartial in his treatment of the people.

Indebtedness of certain *zamindars* in the Hazara District.

16. The *Rafi'-ul-Akhbar* (Sialkot), of the 24th May 1902, publishes a communication from one Muhammad Yamin Ahmedi of Data, Hazara District, who says that some of the respectable families in that district owe so much money to *sahukars* that unless they sell off their lands—their only means of support—they cannot pay even the interest due by them. He then suggests that Government should repay their debts, charging no interest for the loan and recovering the same by instalments or by managing their lands itself. Should Government be unwilling to lend money without interest it should not take more than Re. 0-4-0 per cent. per mensem. In case it be disinclined to take up the debts of the said families it should compel the *sahukars* concerned to charge interest at the above rate and not at Re. 1 per cent.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

17. One Jagan Nath, a pensioner, writing to the *Seraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 2nd June 1902, remarks that recently he had occasion to visit the Chakwal Tahsil on Government business. On his way back from the *ilaqa* he went to the Gujar Khan Railway Station, but found that he was too late to catch the (day) train. He had, therefore, to wait for the next train, but the sun and the hot wind to which he was exposed at the station were too much for him. On his asking the Station Master for some shelter against the heat he was directed by the latter to go into the waiting room. He did so, but could find no sitting room in it, the whole floor being covered knee-deep with mud. The writer then goes on to say that after passing his day in great discomfort he left Gujar Khan in the evening. On taking his seat in the train, however, he found that there was no light in his carriage, an Intermediate one. He requested the Station Master to supply a light, but to no purpose. He preferred the same request at every station between Gujar Khan and Jhelum, but with no better success.

(g)—Postal matters.

A postal complaint.

18. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 7th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that about three years back he complained in the *Akhbar-i-'Am* that the public of Bhangala, Hoshiarpur District, were being put to inconvenience for want of a large-sized letter-box at the local Post Office. Soon after this a large letter-box was supplied to the Bhangala Post Office, but it has not yet been made use of. The reason assigned for this is that the Postal authorities have not sanctioned the expenditure necessary to set it up.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

19. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 29th May (received on the 7th June) 1902, in speaking of the probable recrudescence of plague next winter remarks that all distrust between the rulers and the ruled in regard to plague administration has ceased; that the people of the Punjab now gladly undergo inoculation, and that if the epidemic has not been banished from the country it is only because the causes which lead to its spread are beyond the power of man to combat. The Editor observes that natives look upon the plague as a punishment from Heaven for their misdeeds; and he suggests that, the breach of sanitary laws being a transgression, Government should take advantage of the people's present mood to induce them to pay greater regard to sanitation.

The Coronation.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, says that the King-Emperor's Coronation will be an unprecedented spectacle in the history of the world, and that the presence in London on the 26th June of men of different nationalities and religions will deeply impress both the friends and foes of Great Britain. The Editor then suggests that in honour of the happy event native immigrants in the Crown Colonies should be granted the same rights as British Colonists. This, he adds, would enable the surplus population of India to migrate to these Colonies, while the concession would be gratefully cherished by the present and coming generations of natives. The Editor further suggests that the Government of India should be required to devote a part of its revenues to settling natives in foreign countries and bringing new land under cultivation in India itself.

The same.

21. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 29th May (received on the 7th June) 1902, says that the educated community in India complain that not a single representative of it has been included among the gentlemen elected to represent this country at the Coronation. The complaint appears to be a just one, seeing that among the elected representatives there is not one middle class native who has risen to high position through his intellectual attainments. Government, adds the Editor, which has selected Chiefs, noblemen and soldiers, could have pleased educated Hindus and Muhammadans by sending a few of their representatives to England.

22. The *Sat Dharm Parchark* (Jullundur), of the 30th May 1902, writing about the Coronation, remarks that on such happy occasions Rulers should undertake measures for the benefit of their countries and subjects. As for the release of long-term prisoners, there can be no doubt that this affords the prisoners great pleasure; but who can tell the feelings of those for injuring whom such criminals are sent to Jail? The Editor adds that the Vedic religion teaches that the offender must invariably be punished, and this is also the immutable law of the Most High. He further remarks that a ruler is guilty of oppression if he puts his subjects to trouble, does not remove their difficulties, devises no means to promote their welfare, and does nothing to protect them from the oppression of his officials, &c., &c.

The same.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla.—3-7-02—70.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 21st June 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The peace.

1. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 11th June 1902, remarks that great rejoicings were observed in London on the receipt of the news that peace had been concluded in South Africa. There is hardly a family in England that has not at least one member in the field, and only those whose relatives were at the front can realize the feelings of intense joy with which the news must have been received in England. Every body in India, adds the Editor, will be glad at the successful termination of the war, but he thinks that jubilations on the present occasion appear to have been carried too far, seeing that the triumph of British arms was a foregone conclusion. It is, however, gratifying to see that the Boers have come to their senses before they were swept off the face of the earth and that the sanguinary struggle has been brought to a satisfactory issue before the Coronation of His Majesty the King-Emperor.

The same.

2. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th June 1902, remarks that the news of the cessation of hostilities in South Africa has been received with great lack of enthusiasm (lit. contempt) in England. Those who expected that the Boers would be crushed sooner or later are dissatisfied with the terms of peace. The public think that the Boers have agreed to these terms as a matter of expediency. They say that the Ministers have come to terms with the Boers simply in deference to the wishes of His Majesty the King-Emperor, who was anxious that peace should reign throughout the British Empire at the time of his Coronation. There is doubtless something in this opinion, seeing that fifteen months ago Lord Kitchener offered to the Boers terms which no victor can concede to a crushed enemy, but the Boers being anxious to retain their independence declined to accept the offer. But having regard to the straits to which the Boers had been reduced, it is not surprising that they should have agreed to the present terms although these left them no independence.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1902, congratulates Government on the conclusion of peace and publishes an account of the outbursts of joy with which the news was received in England. A summary of the terms of peace is also given.

The same.

4. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 7th June 1902, congratulates the Government on the conclusion of peace, and remarks that the Boers should feel thankful that they have come under the protection of a benign Government.

The same.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1902, acknowledges the the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund ;—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	2,170	1	0
1. Received through Kazi Muhammad Suleiman, Superintendent, Guest Department, Patiala	...	243	8	0
2. Small subscriptions ...	...	35	12	0
Total	...	2,449	5	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
Grand Total	...	6,249	10	10

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th June 1902, acknowledges the following subscription :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,697	3	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	17	8	0
Total	...	*9,714	11	11

* Rs. 9,142-9-6 have already been remitted by three instalments to Constantinople.

III.—Native States.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1902, remarks that some time ago one Abdul Rahim Shah of Hyderabad collected Rs. 46,000 from the Musalmans of the Deccan for the relief of the famine-stricken in the Hedjaz, but did not remit the amount to those for whom it was intended. The Hyderabad Government and the general public repeatedly made enquiries about the money, but no satisfactory explanation having been furnished some of the subscribers brought the matter into Court, when Abdul Rahim Shah paid Rs. 28,557-12-5 into the State Treasury, and the amount was credited to the Hedjaz Railway Fund. Why the Muhammadan public and especially those who had subscribed were satisfied with this sum instead of calling upon Abdul Rahim to make good the entire amount is a mystery which still remains to be explained. It may be that, find-

Misappropriation of the Hedjaz Railway fund in Hyderabad.

ing the whole amount was likely to be lost, they made the best of a bad bargain and accepted the Rs. 28,557-12-5 produced. But the strangest part of this story has yet to be told. News has reached the *Watan* from a reliable source that the Committee of the Victoria Memorial Fund in Hyderabad has decided to make over to the Victoria Memorial Fund all the money referred to above, as also the balance of the subscriptions collected for the relief of Turkish soldiers wounded during the last Russo-Turkish War. The Victoria Memorial Committee contains a number of Muslim members, but none of them had the courage to point out that the Committee so far from having any authority to come to this decision had no right even to discuss such a question. Nor did it occur to the non-Muslim members that it would be most undignified on their part to allow such funds to be appropriated for the commemoration of an august reign like that of the late Queen Victoria. The Editor would like to know who was the originator of this proposal and how it was brought before the Victoria Memorial Committee. The conduct of Mr. Walker, the Financial Adviser to the Hyderabad State, in this affair is still more surprising. As soon as the Committee's decision was communicated to him, he, without any enquiry whatever, ordered the amount to be made over to the Victoria Memorial Fund. Is it possible to conceive anything more irregular or more careless than that the fund deposited in the Nizam's Treasury to the credit of the Hedjaz Railway by His Highness' Government should be made over to the Victoria Memorial Fund under the orders of a non-official Committee? If Mr. Walker is in the habit of performing his duties in the manner in which he has acted in the present instance, the Editor cannot help remarking that his selection by Lord Curzon has proved a failure and that the Nizam was ill-advised and hasty in accepting him as his Financial Adviser. This is perhaps the first case in which the religious susceptibilities of the people have been so boldly disregarded. Apart from the fact of its being calculated to wound the susceptibilities of the Muhammadans, this act of misappropriation will cause such widespread misconception that the people will never again subscribe towards religious and charitable objects. It is, however, to be hoped that Lord Curzon and the Nizam will refuse consent to so monstrous a proposal, and that the Government of India will not fail to signify their displeasure at this misappropriation of funds.

The Coronation and the Native Chiefs.

8. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th June 1902, remarks that hopes are entertained that on the auspicious occasion of the Coronation prisoners will be released and those who have been banished will be allowed to return to their homes. After suggesting that the event should be immortalized by some permanent memorial, the Editor urges that certain Native Chiefs who have, for special reasons, been deprived of their ruling powers should be restored to their former position. The Native Chiefs, it should be remembered, are a source of strength to Government, and in order to ensure the stability of British rule in India it is very desirable that they should be treated with all due consideration by Government. After remarking that these rulers are the descendants of those who materially helped the Government during the dark days of the Mutiny, the Editor calls upon Government to invest the Maharaja of Kashmir with full powers.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The Coronation and kine-slaughter in India.

9. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th June 1902, publishes a communication from one Munshi Abdul Rahman Faruqi, Contractor, Lahore, who remarks that the prices of food-grains and other necessaries of life have been rising in consequence of the slaughter of kine. In a country like India, where the cow is the most useful animal, steps should be taken to ensure its preservation. But unfortunately there are people who slaughter kine merely to satisfy their carnivorous appetites. In Arabia this animal is held in great esteem, and the Arabs consider it an act of humanity to protect and preserve it. It is the duty of all men to prevent the slaughter of so useful an animal.

The same.

10. The same paper of the 14th June 1902 publishes a communication in which the writer urges the propriety of prohibiting kine-slaughter in India in commemoration of His Majesty's Coronation.

The same.

11. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th June 1902, learns that the *Gauraksha Sabha* (a kine-protection committee) at Nagpur proposes to send a cow made of marble with a blade of green grass in her month to the Coronation Darbar. This is intended to signify that kine-slaughter should be prohibited in India. The Editor takes exception to the proposal on the ground that the people should on such an occasion content themselves with an expression of their feelings of loyalty and gratitude and abstain from doing anything likely to create ill-feeling between classes of the subjects of the King-Emperor.

A *jhatka* case.

12. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 7th June 1902, reports that finding a certain Hindu resident of Mauza Murad Bakhsh Fort, Tahsil Hafizabad, Gujranwala District, cooking *jhatka* meat, the Muhammadans of that place combined to create a disturbance. A complaint was filed in the Court of the Deputy Commissioner, who directed the Tahsildar of Hafizabad by urgent telegram to make inquiries on the spot and bring about a reconciliation between the parties. Friendly relations have been restored through the intercession of certain influential men including a number of *Ulemas*.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

13. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer dwells on the debaucheries and immoral practices of certain Mahants in the Amritsar District. The writes then refers to an intrigue carried on by Mahant Sant Das with a certain woman at Amritsar, and says that if the Tahsildar of Tarn Taran fails to submit a report against the Mahant by next week he will take it upon himself to enlighten the Deputy Commissioner on the subject.

The *Nadwa* at Amritsar.

14. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1902, publishes a communication from Sheikh Ghulam Sadiq, Secretary, Mu'in-ul-Nadwa, Amritsar, who says that at the last Calcutta Session of the *Nadwa* it was decided to hold the next meeting of the assembly at Amritsar. No date has yet been fixed, but correspondence is going on on the subject and an announcement is expected shortly. In the meanwhile efforts should be made to collect subscriptions for ensuring the success of the session. After giving the names of those persons who have already subscribed towards the expenses of the *Nadwa*, the correspondent states that a committee consisting of Mir Amir Shah, Mian Habib-ulla, Mian Sadar-ud-din, Malik Ahmedulla, Malik Miran Bakhsh, Maulvi Abdul Aziz and Sheikh Muhammad Ismail, Merchants, Munshi Abdul Ahd, Appeal-writer, and Babu Nizam Din, Assistant Secretary, Mu'in-ul-Nadwa, has been formed for collecting subscriptions, and that meetings will be held on the 9th, 10th and 11th October 1902. The writer concludes by calling upon the Muhammadans to subscribe liberally towards the Fund.

The same.

15. One Ahmad Mashir Husain of Oudh, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 9th June 1902, remarks that the holding of the next session of the *Nadwa* at Amritsar will put the patriotism of the Musalmans of the Punjab to a crucial test. The Punjabi Musalmans are known for their love of Islam and their strict adherence to its tenets. They are, moreover, supposed to be alive to the wants and necessities of the age, and they count among their numbers such intelligent and zealous workers as Maulvi Abdul Qadir, Editor of the *Observer*, and Maulvi Shamas-ud-din, the Secretary to the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam. It may therefore be confidently predicted that the next session of the *Nadwa* will be a great success.

The Nadwa and the translation of the Quran.

16. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, reports that the next session of the Nudwat-ul-Ulema will for the first time be held at Amritsar in the Punjab. The Editor urges that the Nadwa should set at rest the controversy raging between the partisans of Mirza Hairat and Maulvi Nazir Ahmad regarding the merits of the translations of the Quran made by these two men.

Want of patriotism in India.

17. The *Koh-i-Nur* (Lahore), of the 10th June 1902, remarks that the Congress has not done much to promote the cause of progress in India. The Congress in itself is doubtless a useful institution in so far as it brings the grievances and wants of the people to the notice of Government. But real progress must come from within. The people should raise themselves morally and socially before adopting European methods of political agitation. Almost all the evils from which the people are at present suffering are due to their own shortcomings and want of patriotism. In support of this view the Editor asserts that it was Native Doctors and Policemen who practiced such gross oppression on the people in connection with the plague. He, however, does not mean to insinuate that all natives are unpatriotic, but thinks that there can be no denying the fact that the number of really patriotic men is exceedingly small.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A judicial complaint.

18. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 7th June 1902, reports that the Courts of the Deputy Commissioner, the Sessions Judge, and one Assistant Commissioner having gone to Murree, litigants have to travel to that place and are thus put to much unnecessary trouble and expense.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to Municipal Committee, Amritsar.

19. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, says that enquiries are being made as to the actual cost of the printing of "passes" supplied to the Amritsar Municipal Committee by Ghulam Muhammad Akhtar, Contractor. The charges on enquiry from a private local press were estimated not to exceed Rs. 120 or Rs. 125, but it is likely that if the *Gazette* had not exposed the doings of the Committee, Mr. Gardener would have given the contractor Rs. 400 or even Rs. 900 and taken a share of the profits. The Editor then reiterates his remarks about the tax levied at the last cattle fair at Amritsar (paragraph 26 of Selections No. 18, dated 3rd May 1902), and suggests that before the next Dewali Fair comes round a notice should be circulated throughout the Punjab and other parts of India to the effect that in future no tax will be levied on cattle which are not sold at the fair. He further complains of Abdul Qadir, Lighting Darogha, remarking that if an enquiry were made as to the rates at which oil has been supplied to the Committee during the last three or four months, the Darogha's sharp practices would be brought to light. The Editor also notices in this connection that a certain local shop-keeper offered to supply the Committee with oil at lower rates, but that the Secretary, actuated by motives of self-interest, did not accept the offer. The Editor concludes by remarking that no notes are allowed to be taken from the Voters' Register for the ensuing election, and it is therefore impossible for objections to be raised. He adds that the number of Muhammadan voters has risen this year from 6,000 to 12,000.

Amritsar Municipality.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, writing about the coming Municipal Election at Amritsar, calls upon the voters to give their support to really competent men and not content themselves with returning mere figure-heads.

The same.

21. The same paper reports that besides the water-works a new Hospital is about to be erected in the city and that tenders are being invited for the purpose. Soon after its completion the building at present occupied by the (Sadar?) Hospital will be made over to the local Anjuman-i-Islamia.

Appointment of Munshi Nur-ud-din as Conservancy Darogha of Lahore.

22. The *Ghamkhwar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, remarks that the reappointment of Munshi Nur-ud-din as a Conservancy Darogha has given great satisfaction to the Lahore public. The Munshi is an experienced and popular official, and his services are likely to prove of great use in suppressing the plague.

23. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 11th June 1902, also makes similar remarks and adds that Munshi Nur-ud-din will make himself still more popular.

The same.

(d)—Education.

24. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th June 1902, says that although the Punjabi Muhammadans have taken more kindly to education than their co-religionists in other parts of India, the number of Muhammadans who have received higher education is still very small. Poverty, no doubt, has been a great stumbling block in the way of their progress. But there are other causes which a benign Government ought to try and remove. One of these is the paucity of Muhammadans in the Educational Department. Hindu teachers do not make the concessions to their Muhammadan pupils to which the latter are entitled in common with their Hindu class-fellows. For instance, a fair proportion of Muhammadans are not permitted to join a school as free students or on payment of half tuition fees, &c., as provided for by the Education Code, with the result that the poorer class of students are obliged to discontinue their studies; and it sometimes happens that beyond the scholarship-holders not a single Muhammadan boy is to be found in a Board School. In support of his assertion about the paucity of Muhammadan teachers in the Education Department, the Editor cites the case of the Central Training College, Lahore, the staff of which does not contain a single Muhammadan and has been exclusively manned by Hindus for the last two or three years. The Editor considers it very unfortunate that now that Muhammadans have begun to take an interest in education, they should be thwarted in their efforts by unsympathetic teachers, and suggests that a larger number of Muhammadan teachers should be employed.

Paucity of Muhammadan teachers in the Educational Service.

25. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, takes the local Municipality to task for abolishing its Board College which taught up to the Intermediate Standard and was a great blessing to students who were unwilling to prosecute their studies in Sikh or Christian institutions. As the expenditure on the College never exceeded its income there was absolutely no justification for its abolition. Moreover, even if the institution had not been a self-supporting one, the Municipality could have met a deficit by reductions under other heads of expenditure.

Municipal Board College, Amritsar.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

26. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that Railway passengers are put to great inconvenience at the Peshawar Railway Station owing to the absence of any arrangement for the supply of sweetmeats, &c. The contract entered into with Jagat Singh expired on the 1st of January last; the latter refused to enter into a fresh contract on previous terms and no new contract has been made.

A Railway complaint.

(g)—Postal matters.

27. The *Suraj* (Ambala), of the 9th June 1902, says that as the regulations of the Postal Department are published in English only, the general public do not derive much advantage from them. The Editor recommends that the Postal Guide and the circulars issued by the Department from time to time should in future be published both in English and Vernacular. He further suggests that a translation in Urdu should be made of the Civil Service Regulations to prevent officials ignorant of English from making blunders in the submission of bills, &c., to the Accountant-General's Office.

A suggestion to translate the Postal Guide and the Civil Service Regulations into Urdu.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

28. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th June 1902, says that notwithstanding the steady rise of temperature plague cases are daily being reported from almost every quarter of the city. Some of the streets are in a most insanitary condition and the Committee has done very little to suppress the plague. The Editor concludes by remarking that the corpses of friendless persons who die of the plague are allowed to rot for hours in the street.

The plague.

29. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th June 1902, after giving the names of certain Editors and proprietors of newspapers who have received titles of honour, says that Government does not hesitate to confer honours upon Editors provided they are entitled to such distinction by their social position, &c. The Editor therefore advises journalists desirous of obtaining titles to try to improve their social status and to serve Government and the public.

Editors and honorary titles.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla.—25-6-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 26.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 28th June 1902.

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[Vol. IV.] [No. 26.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 28th June 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

Indians in South Africa.

1. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th June 1902, observes that the Indian immigrants in South Africa have been subjected to great hardship, inasmuch as an order has been issued to the effect that Indians will be required to return to India, but that any electing to reside in the Colony will have to pay an annual tax of £ 3 (or Rs. 45) per head. As this order is bearing very hard upon the Indians they have petitioned the Secretary of State for India for its cancellation on the ground that the Indians are British subjects and no restrictions should therefore be placed on their residence in the Colony.

The conclusion of peace.

2. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th June 1902, remarks that some of the people who read Anglo-Indian newspapers say that the British have not gained a victory over the Boers, but have come to a settlement with them. The Anglo-Indian papers, says the Editor, may indulge with impunity in such criticisms, as they are supposed to do everything in good faith. As an instance in point the Editor refers to the accusation brought against the *Pioneer* by Lord Curzon's Private Secretary, and adds that if some native newspaper had been placed in such a predicament, it would have assuredly involved its utter ruin. The Editor then goes on to explain that the British have not only concluded a treaty with the Boers, but have conquered them completely, inasmuch as the latter have sworn allegiance to the King of England. The Burghers, however, have sustained such heavy losses that it will be hardly possible for them to recover their lost strength. The British, on the other hand, have brought under their control a Power which will add to their prestige, and therefore the balance of gain in their favor is large. The Editor then pays a glowing tribute to the British Government for their humane conduct towards a vanquished enemy, and adds that it was not from

a desire to extend their dominions that the British went to war, and that the Boers, who must have known that they would not prove a match for the British, should have laid down their arms at the very outset. The Editor then refers to the speech of Lord Stanley in the House of Commons stating the number of soldiers engaged, wounded and killed in the war, and concludes by saying that every soldier who has been in the field will be awarded a medal.

The same,

3. The *Ghamkhwar-i-'Alam* (Lahore), of the 8th June 1902, makes similar remarks on the conclusion of peace, and extols the performances of the British in the field. The Editor says that, despite her appalling unreadiness for the struggle at the beginning, Great Britain's activity and persistence and the revelation of her resources for a great war 7,000 miles from home have convinced the world of her strength and her ability to carry on a long campaign. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that the British will now seize the numerous gold mines, &c., in South Africa. He also observes that although the Boers have surrendered at last, their reputation for bravery and endurance has in no way suffered.

The same,

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, commenting on an article in the *Civil and Military Gazette* of the 5th June about the special measures to be taken in India in commemoration of the conclusion of peace, observes that it is unnecessary to make a public show of rejoicing on this occasion, and that any demonstrations of loyalty made privately by the various Native Committees are sure to be communicated by the Viceroy to the King-Emperor. The Editor further referring to an article in the *Pioneer* of the 4th June on the peace rejoicings at home, remarks that although the British have shown great qualities in war, yet, considering the terms on which the Boers are so far known to have surrendered, there seems no reason why the people of London should indulge in such ecstasies on the occasion.

The same.

5. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur City), of the 13th June 1902, says that the war in South Africa has come to a peaceful and honourable end for both combatants. The Boers, having come to fully appreciate the bravery of British soldiers, are now prepared to extend brotherly treatment to them.

The same.

6. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 15th June 1902, expresses satisfaction at the conclusion of peace with the Boers. The Editor hopes that, like the martial races of India, the Boers will consider it an honour and a privilege to fight under the British flag.

The same.

7. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, commenting on the terms of peace with the Boers, says that it has cost the British Government very dear, and that in the circumstances it would not be correct to affirm that the Boers have been vanquished.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th and 20th June 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway Fund.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th June 1902	...	2,449	6	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	54	0	0
Total	...	*2,503	6	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	3,800	5	10
Add jewellery worth	...	15	11	0
Grand Total	...	6,319	6	10

* Of this amount Rs. 2,046 were remitted to Turkey on the 16th June. The total amount remitted to Turkey in five instalments comes to Rs. 5,846-5-10.

9. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th June 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,714	11	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	55	0	0
Total	...	†9,770	4	11

† Of this sum Rs. 9,142-9-8 have already been remitted to Constantinople, by three instalments, through the National Bank.

10. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1902, remarks that Sir Khurshaid Jah of Hyderabad promised to subscribe fifty thousand rupees towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund, and that in fulfilment of his promise he has commenced sending Rs. 5,000 per mensem to the Mufti of Hyderabad. The latter, however, has not so far remitted anything to the Fund on the plea that he is not quite sure of the existence of any such Railway project, and that even if such a Railway line were really under construction, it would be better to remit the money at the time when the line between Mecca and Medina is taken in hand. The Editor regretfully dwells on the ignorance of Muhammadans of the present day, and concludes by saying that it would be equally meritorious to remit the money at the commencement of the operations, and that the Mufti should not, in any case, withhold it on such trivial grounds.

The same.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

11. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th June 1902, says that it was stated in a previous issue of the paper (*vide* paragraph 5 of Selections No. 24) that one Muhammad Ismail, Afghan, was suspected by the Amir of having embezzled some public money. The Editor observes that there being several

Self-contradiction.

Agents of the Amir in India, some of the vernacular newspapers mistook this man for Colonel Sardar Muhammad Ismail Khan. At the time of giving publicity to this news, adds the Editor, it was never thought for a moment that such a mistake would ever occur, but now that it has, it seems desirable to remove the misunderstanding.

III.—Native States.

Hyderabad affairs.

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, remarks that the appointment of Mr. Casson Walker to the post of Financial Minister in the Hyderabad State has given rise to various complaints in certain quarters. The Editor, however, refuses to attach any importance to these rumours and attributes them to the fact that the native officials do not like the idea of a European being placed over their head. But it must be borne in mind that no one but a European, who keeps clear of party politics, can be expected to put the finances of the State in order.

Suket affairs.

13. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, publishes a letter from a responsible official of the Mandi State in which the writer reports that Tikka Bhem Sain, having escaped from Suket, arrived at Mandi on the 2nd idem at 9 P.M., where a salute of nine guns was fired in his honour. He was so weak from having had no food for a long time that he was unable to speak without first taking some refreshment. It was found that he had been without food for the last three days, and that while staying with his father he was starved for three or four days at a time. When the Raja of Mandi offered to send him back to Suket under an escort, the Tikka declined the offer, saying that he would sooner die than return to his father. A telegram, together with a letter, was despatched to the Commissioner of the Jullundur Division intimating the condition in which Tikka Bhem Sain arrived at Mandi.

The same.

14. A correspondent of the same paper referring to the escape of the Tikka ridicules the *Hamdard-i-Hind* and *Sama Char* (Lahore) for singing the praises of the Raja of Suket.

Faridkot affairs.

15. The *Singh Sahai-i-Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, learns that the Raja of Faridkot has been advised by the Commissioner to settle all complaints made against him within six months, and to devote himself more energetically to the administration of his State. The Editor approves of the advice, and expresses a hope that His Highness will get rid of his corrupt officials and follow in the footsteps of the late Raja Bikram Singh.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian.

16. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 31st May (received on the 21st June) 1902, publishes a report of a discourse by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, in the course of which he said that he had received another revelation from God to the effect that He Himself was at the back of the Mirza's followers, whom no power on earth could destroy, and that they would prosper and increase in numbers.

17. The same paper publishes a report of a sermon delivered by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad on the 5th April 1902. In the course of this sermon the Mirza, referring to the prevalent vices of the time, remarked that the Christian Missionaries attempted to propagate their absurd religion by giving it a picturesque colouring, and encouraged the people in leading a vicious life by preaching the doctrine of vicarious punishment, and that the English style of living made the situation worse. It was to remedy these evils, said the Prophet of Kadian, that God sent his messenger on earth, but the people rose against him and gave him much trouble. When, however, their overbearing conduct became intolerable, the Almighty, in fulfilment of his promise, punished them with a visitation of plague. The plague cannot, therefore, be considered a calamity: it is in fact a heavenly sign showing that the Mirza is really a messenger from God.

The same.

18. The same paper of 10th June 1902 publishes a communication from one Nur Ahmad, Pleader, in which the writer, referring to a note published in a previous issue of the paper about Maulvi Fazl Haq of Abbottabad, says that the Maulvi, far from being "the promised Messiah," as he claimed to be, is an ordinary man of scanty means and that the object of his pretensions is to earn a livelihood. The Maulvi has not been successful because the Muhammadans of Abbottabad have, deserted him as an impostor. He has, on the contrary, suffered pecuniary loss, an allowance of Rs. 20 per mensem that he used to receive from the Muhammadan community having been stopped and his connection with the Islamya Association completely severed.

Maulvi Fazl Haq of Abbottabad.

19. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, states that Sardar Arur Singh, Honorary Magistrate, Noshehra Nangli, has been appointed Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar, in place of Colonel Jowala Singh. The Sardar will take charge of his office on the 1st July 1902.

The appointment of a new Manager for the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, writing on the same subject, states that Colonel Jowala Singh is a resident of Mauza Boudala. He served as Colonel in the army of the Bhartpur State, though his salary was no greater than that drawn by a Jamadar in the British army. He owed his appointment as Manager of the Golden Temple to the Deputy Commissioner, Colonel Massey, whose acquaintance he had made at Bhartpur. The appointment, however, was not favourably regarded by the people, as Colonel Jowala Singh was thus placed in a position enabling him to embezzle the funds of the Temple without any check. Commenting on the appointment of Sardar Arur Singh, the Editor suggests that if the Sardar were made an Honorary Magistrate of Amritsar it would save considerable inconvenience and enable him to discharge his duties as Manager of the Golden Temple more satisfactorily. In conclusion, he remarks that the Sikh community gratefully acknowledges the services of Mr. Maclagan in taking the management of the Golden Temple out of the hands of Colonel Jowala Singh.

Colonel Jowala Singh and the new Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

21. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, says that although the Bill introduced in the Viceregal Council to amend the Code of Civil Procedure is of a very important nature, the public seem to be ignorant of its existence. The Editor, therefore, advises his countrymen, especially legal practitioners, Judicial Officers and Editors of Newspapers to bestir themselves before the Bill is passed into law, and direct the attention of Government to the merits and demerits of the proposed amendments and see how far the defects in the existing Code have been removed.

The Bill to amend the Civil Procedure Code.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Judicial.

22. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, referring to the remarks made in a recent issue of the *Tribune* (Lahore) against Mr. Calvert, says it is very unbecoming on the part of a newspaper to indulge in adverse criticism of an officer when he is about to leave the station. If the *Tribune* had anything to say against Mr. Calvert as a City Magistrate it should have done so before his departure. The Editor then goes on to remark that the outgoing Magistrate was an able and diligent officer who devoted the greater part of his time to the performance of official duties. He was accessible to rich and poor alike, and took a keen interest in Municipal affairs.

Mr. Calvert, City Magistrate, Lahore.

23. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, says that the procedure at present adopted in the Chief Court for hearing appeals entails considerable hardship upon litigants who have to attend the Court for the whole week after the institution of an appeal. The Editor suggests that, following the example of the Subordinate Courts, appellants should be required to attend on a particular day fixed for the preliminary hearing.

A judicial complaint.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

24. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1902, remarks that there being neither shade nor drinking water near the graveyard of the Muhammadans and the cremation ground of the Hindus of Lahore and the roads leading to these places being badly in want of repair, great inconvenience is felt at all times of the year by persons going to either place.

A complaint in connection with the condition of certain roads in Lahore.

25. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th (received on the 13th) June 1902, remarks that it will go on exposing the doings of the local Municipality till the grievances of the public have reached the ears of Government. The Editor is, however, willing to give his opponents a chance of laying their case before the public, and he offers to publish their refutation, if any, of the charges preferred against them in his paper.

Sialkot Municipal affairs.

The same.

26. The same paper commenting on the report submitted by the Sub-Committee (*vide* paragraph 18 of Selections No. 23) regarding certain employés of the Sialkot Municipality at present under suspension, states that Gokal Chand, Naib Octroi Darogha, in collusion with Vir Bhan, has been charged with having illegally affixed a "chit" (*chithi*) marked "silken cloth" to certain pieces of country-made cloth on which a refund was demanded. The Editor then proceeds to defend the Naib Darogha, and takes exception to the decision of the Sub-Committee in the case, because, amongst other reasons, four of the members who voted against the Naib Darogha are his enemies, &c., &c. It is suggested that the decision should be set aside and the case laid before a General Meeting of the Municipality.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

27. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, repeats its objection to the proposal for giving Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the local Municipality, a reward of Rs. 500 out of the increase in the receipts from octroi during the last financial year (*vide* paragraph 14 of Selections No. 20), and remarks that if the Secretary is entitled to a reward from this increase, there is no reason why he should not be held responsible for and required to make good the decrease of Rs. 7,000 in the Municipal receipts during the months of April and May 1902.

(d)—Education.

A complaint in connection with the Board School, Gujrat.

28. A correspondent writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, expresses regret at the backward condition into which the Board School, Gujrat, has fallen during the last three or four years. The writer draws attention to the bad results obtained by this school at the last Entrance Examination, when, of 22 candidates sent up, no less than 14 failed in English alone. He suggests that a competent Head Master should be appointed.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Defective arrangements for drinking-water at Railway Stations.

29. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer states that passengers experience great difficulty in obtaining drinking-water at Railway Stations both on the Main and Branch lines of the North-West Railway owing to the number of watermen being in the first place insufficient, and in the second place to these men being employed on other duties.

Overcrowding in Third Class Railway carriages.

30. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, says that if the Railway authorities are anxious to remove the complaints of Third Class Passengers in regard to overcrowding in carriages, they should order guards to examine every train at the time of its departure and see that no compartment contains more than the authorised number of passengers; and this duty should be supervised by Station Masters.

31. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 16th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that on the 29th ultimo he travelled in the train which leaves Lala Musa for Lahore at 12-30. It was very hot and the train, especially the Third Class carriages, were much overcrowded. At the Gujranwala Station there was a great rush of passengers, who were packed at the rate of not less than 16 in a compartment. The writer further complains that not a single waterman was seen throughout the journey, the reason being that watermen are employed by Station Masters as private servants. Some of the stations were certainly supplied with hydrants, but then the train did not stop long enough for these to be made use of. Besides it is not safe for a man travelling alone to leave his luggage to the tender mercies of his fellow-passengers.

The same, and defective arrangements for drinking-water at Railway Stations.

32. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, complains that the Booking Office at the Gujranwala Railway Station is opened only a few minutes before the arrival of a train with the result that not infrequently passengers fail to get tickets and miss the train.

A complaint regarding the issue of tickets at the Gujranwala Railway Station.

33. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1902, after remarking that persons serving in the frontier district of Quetta (Baluchistan) are allowed frontier allowances at the rate of Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 per cent., observes that it is not easy to see why the concession should not be extended to Railway employés in the North-West Frontier Province. There are a few Railway employés who get an allowance of Rs. 5 per month, but this is quite inadequate.

'A complaint regarding the grant of allowances to Railway employés in the North-West Frontier Province.'

34. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th June 1902, reprints from the *Observer* (Lahore) a complaint regarding the preponderance of Hindu employés in the Accounts Department of the North-Western Railway. After remarking that appointments in the Railway Department are very sparingly given to Muhammadans, the Editor takes exception to the proposal that in future all important matters connected with the Accounts Department should be decided by the Examiner in consultation with a Committee, because the said Committee, which will consist exclusively of Hindu Accountants, can hardly be expected to pay due regard for the claims of Muhammadans.

Preponderance of Hindus employed in the Accounts Department of the North-Western Railway.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

35. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur City), of the 13th June 1902, publishes a communication from one Kashi Nath of Dinga, in which the writer, referring to the spread of plague in India says that this is due to the Indian people having put too much faith in the doctrine of fatalism and having failed to adopt necessary sanitary measures. Europe has also, the writer says, been visited with such epidemics, but these never assumed large proportions because the people, far from offering any opposition to the authorities, gave them every possible help in taking the necessary precautionary measures. The writer

The plague.

that goes on to say that the people of the Punjab have not yet grown wise enough to understand the benefits of stopping communication between infected and uninfected places. Black Death appeared in Europe at a time when its conditions were similar to those of India, and history tells us that it was owing to the outbreak of this malady that the people of Europe came to learn the value of sanitation. In conclusion the writer urges the educated classes to enlighten their illiterate countrymen.

The same.

36. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, says that quarantine has not been abolished on the principal roads of the Kapurthala State and that those leading to Kartarpur, Jullundur and Sultanpur are placed under the charge of Doctors and the Police. The clothes of everybody travelling by these roads are disinfected. As there is no infectious disease in Kapurthala, the stringent measures resorted to by the State are causing unnecessary inconvenience and hardship to travellers to and from the State. The Editor then cites the case of a passenger who on being pressed to submit to being bathed and making over his clothes for disinfection, administered a sound beating to the Plague Officer and then went back (!).

British soldiers and punkha-coolies.

37. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th June 1902, says that on the 9th June a punkha-coolie died at Rawalpindi from the injuries inflicted upon him by a British soldier. Such heinous offences, adds the Editor, are becoming as unmanageable as those committed by the frontier tribes.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—8-7-02—70.

[illegible]

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 27.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 5th July 1902.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 1902.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune	Lahore	Mul Chand	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer	Lahore	Abdul Rashid	1,150 copies.
3	Punjab Times	Rawalpindi	Narain Das	300 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger	Lahore	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
5	Akhbar-i-'Am	Lahore	Govind Sahai	Between 2,000 & 3,000 copies.
6	Victoria Paper	Sialkot	Gian Chand	600 copies.
	WEEKLY.			
7	Ahluwalia Gazette	Amritsar	Balwant Rai	600 copies.
8	Alhakam	Kadian, *Gurdaspur* District.	Yakub Ali	300 ,,
9	Arya Gazette	Lahore	Atma Ram	200 ,,
10	Chaudhwin Sadi	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	1,200 ,,
11	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,200 ,,
12	Curzon Gazette	Delhi	Mirza Hairat	950 ,,
13	Dost-i-Hind	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	300 ,,
14	Gham Khar-i-Hind	Lahore	Pandit Data Kishen ...	330 ,,
15	Gham Khar-i-Alam	Do.	M. Ahmad-ud-din ...	...
16	Gulzar-i-Hind	Do.	Sheikh Gulzar Muhammad	...

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 1902—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
17	Hamdard-i-Hind	Lahore	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	500 copies.
18	Hamdard-i-Khalsa	Amritsar	Suchet Singh	500 „
19	Haq Pasand	Do.	Lala Ram Nath ...	...
20	Kapurthala Akbhar	Kapurthala... ...	Prag Narain... ...	125 copies.
21	Khair Khah-i-Alam	Delhi	Mir Hassan	100 „
22	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do.	Maha Narain	50 „
23	Koh-i-Nur	Lahore	Ilahi Bahhsh	116 „
24	Lahore Punch	Do.	Abdul Rahman ...	110 „
25	Mashir-i-Hind	Jullundur	Sultan Ali	200 „
26	Nur Afshan	Ludhiana	M. Wylie	450 „
27	Paisa Akhbar	Lahore	Mahbub 'Alam ...	12,000 „
28	Patiala Akhbar	Patiala	Syad Rajan Ali Shah ...	800 „
29	Public Gazette	Amritsar	Jai Chand	650 „
30	Punjab Organ	Sialkot	Brij Lal	300 „
31	Punjab Gazette	Do.	Ghulam Qadir... ...	500 „
32	Punjab Samachar	Lahore	Pohlo Mal	3,500 „
33	Police Advocate	Do.	Sardar Bishen Singh ...	...
34	Rafiq-i-Hind	Do.	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	1,000 copies.
35	Rafi-ul-Akhbar	Sialkot	Muhammad Shafi ...	...
36	Sada-i-Hind	Lahore	Din Muhammad ...	300 copies.
37	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar	Bahawalpur... ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddus ...	370 „
38	Sat Dharm Pracharik ...	Jullundur City ...	Munshi Ram	800 „
39	Shamim-i-Hind	Do.	Shiv Narayan	...
40	Sialkot Paper	Sialkot	Todar Mal	650 copies.
41	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar	Arjan Singh	200 „

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 1902—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
42	Siraj-ul-Akhbar	Jhelum	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	475 copies.
43	Suraj	Ambala	Suraj Bal	...
44	Taj-ul-Akhbar	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram	300 copies.
45	Zahib-i-Niswan	Lahore	Syad Mumtaz Ali ...	...
46	Vakil	Amritsar	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,100 copies.
47	Vakil-i-Hind	Delhi	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	700 „
48	Wafadar	Lahore	Fazal-ud-din	700 „
49	Watan	Do.	Karm Bakhsh ..	...
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
50	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar	Delhi	Muhammad Mirza Khan ...	50 copies.
51	Shokh	Amritsar	Shaikh Karm Ilahi ...	525 „
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
52	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore	Pandit Gopi Nath ...	1,000 copies.
53	Anwar-ul-Islam	Sialkot	Karim Bakhsh ...	1,200 „
	MONTHLY.			
54	Aror Bans Parkash	Lahore	Salig Ram	50 copies.
55	Arya Musafir Magazine ...	Jullundur	Munshi Ram	700 „
56	Bharat Partap	Jhajjar	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	...
57	Hafiz-i-Sihhat	Lahore	Hakim Ghulam Nabi ...	400 copies.
58	Mufid-i-Am Gazette	Sialkot	Karim Bakhsh ...	...
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
59	Punjab Theosophist	Lahore	Lal Man	229 copies.

No.	Name.	Language.	Periodicity.
	GUJARATI—CONCLUDED.		
63	Gujarati-Punch	Gujarati	Weekly.
64	Indu Prakash	Do.	Do.
65	Jame Jamshed Weekly Supplement ...	Do.	Do.
66	Kaiser-i-Hind	Do.	Do.
67	Kasturi	Do.	Do.
68	Khabar-i-Sar	Do.	Do.
69	Khedut	Do.	Do.
70	Kokila	Do.	Do.
71	Kokilo	Do.	Do.
72	Kutch Mitra	Do.	Do.
73	Mahi Kantha	Do.	Do.
74	Mahiti	Do.	Do.
75	Mahiti-Sar	Do.	Do.
76	Mumbai Samachar	Do.	Daily.
77	Navsari Prakash	Do.	Weekly.
78	Nur-ul-Islam	Do.	Do.
79	Prajabandhu	Do.	Do.
80	Prakash	Do.	Do.
81	Rast Goftar	Do.	Do.
82	Sanj Vartaman	Do.	Daily.
83	Satya Prakash	Do.	Weekly.
84	Shubh Suchak	Do.	Do.
85	Surat Akhbar	Do.	Do.
86	Surat Mitra	Do.	Do.
87	Surat Samachar	Do.	Do.
88	Surat Vartaman	Do.	Do.
89	Vartaman	Do.	Daily.
90	Vartaman Ane Vepar	Do.	Weekly.
91	Vartaman Darpan	Do.	Do.
92	Vartaman Mitra	Do.	Do.
93	Vartaman Sar	Do.	Do.
94	Vartaman Sudharo	Do.	Do.
95	Vartaman Tatva	Do.	Do.
96	Vartaman Tatva Vivechak	Do.	Do.
97	Vartaman Vepar	Do.	Do.
98	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar ...	Do.	Do.
99	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar Supplement ...	Do.	Do.
100	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar Weekly Supplement ...	Do.	Weekly.
101	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar Weekly Supplement ...	Do.	Do.
102	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar Weekly Supplement ...	Do.	Do.
103	Vartaman Vepar Ane Samachar Weekly Supplement ...	Do.	Do.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 27.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 5th July 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

Termination of the war in South Africa.

1. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur City), of the 20th June 1902, remarks that if the war in South Africa had not come to an end, it would have detracted largely from the grandeur of the Coronation festivities. It is satisfactory to learn that Great Britain has at last subdued a brave nation which is likely to prove a source of strength to the Empire. His Majesty the King-Emperor deserves special thanks for wishing a speedy termination of the war, and it now behoves His Majesty to look after the interests of his subjects before everything else in the world. The Editor concludes by saying that Mr. Kruger never acknowledged the supremacy of any power, and the fact that he lowered the flag of the Republic as soon as he came to know of the conclusion of peace, shows that he did not wish to urge his people to carry on the war against heavy odds.

Lord Cromer, Consul-General in Egypt.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th June 1902, remarks that hitherto it has been believed that the British Consul in Egypt only dealt with political matters, but it has recently been brought to light that Lord Cromer wields unlimited power and interferes even in judicial cases—procedure which is calculated to cast a slur on the reputation of the British nation. In support of this allegation the Editor quotes from a letter addressed by Sir Wilfrid Blunt to Lord Salisbury with reference to a Blue Book recently issued in regard to the conduct of certain British Officers who committed trespass on Sir Wilfrid's estate in Egypt and then prosecuted his Arab servants for opposing their trespass. So far as the Editor can judge, the Government appears determined to support Lord Cromer, but it remains to be seen whether any further notice will be taken of the matter by the British public or the European powers, including Turkey.

Natives of India and the Natal Government.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th June 1902, says that the Natal Government have given a fresh proof of their ill-will towards their Hindustani population by introducing a Bill in the Cape Parliament for the expulsion of natives of India. The

Bombay Presidency Association has submitted a memorial to Lord George Hamilton requesting him to safeguard the rights of their countrymen. The Editor deprecates the attitude of the Secretary of State for India, and remarks that a sympathetic Secretary of State would have declared that unless the Natal Government withdrew the measure, they would not be allowed to recruit Hindustani coolies or export their merchandise to India. He adds that the profession of fraternal feelings for natives when their services are required sounds very hollow in the face of the proposed legislation for their expulsion.

Natives of India in South Africa.

4. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th June 1902, observes that the natives of India have during the Transvaal War given ample proof of their loyalty and devotion to the British Crown, and that so far from getting any reward, like the Australians, for their services, it is proposed to impose a poll-tax on those living in the new Colonies of South Africa. The historians of Europe, adds the Editor, are in the habit of finding fault with Muhammadan Emperors for having levied a capitation tax on their non-Muslim subjects, and it remains to be seen in what light the British public will view the tax which is to be levied annually on Eastern or non-European Nations in South Africa. The British public should have advocated the grant of equal rights to the natives of India and should have impressed on the colonists the desirability of treating their Indian fellow-subjects with all due consideration.

The same.

5. Commenting on the above subject a correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* of the 26th June 1902 observes that it sounds very well to say that a favor must be returned for a favor, but it will be admitted on all hands that the natives of India being a much weaker race cannot expect equal treatment at the hands of the British Nation and should consequently feel grateful if the latter ever happen to evince a desire to pay the least regard to their interests.

The Hedjaz Railway.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd June 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,770	4	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	112	0	0
Total	...	*9,882	4	11

*Rs. 9,142-9-6 have already been remitted by three instalments through the National Bank to the Central Committee at Constantinople.

III.—Native States.

Misappropriation of the Hedjaz Railway Fund in Hyderabad.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd June 1902, writing about the misappropriation of the Hedjaz Railway Fund in Hyderabad (*vide* paragraph 7 of Selections No. 25), says that the *Ulemas* and *Mashaikhs* of Usmanabad have submitted

a representation to His Highness the Nizam protesting against the decision of the Memorial Fund Committee. The Muhammadan population of Hyderabad and its suburbs are also dissatisfied with the Committee's decision. The Editor promises to continue writing on the subject till it is finally settled what is to be done with the fund.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Christian Missionaries and *Zanana* Schools.

8. The *Suraj* (Ambala), of the 16th June 1902, writing about the local Mission School for girls, says that the simple-minded and money-loving Hindus should not run away with the idea that the Missionary ladies have no special object in spending so much money and time over the education of native girls. The Editor apprehends serious consequences if his co-religionists take no warning and make light of the matter. He then goes on to mention the services of Lala Dawarka Das, M.A., who by starting and maintaining at considerable personal expense an Anglo-Sanskrit High School at Ambala, has saved Hindu youths from falling into the clutches of *Padris*, and concludes by urging that a Hindu girls' school should also be started on the same lines where the Hindu religion and the principles of domestic economy, &c., should be taught.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

The Small Cause Court, Lahore.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th June 1902, referring to an article published in one of its previous issues regarding the local Small Cause Court (*vide* paragraph 8 of Selections No. 23 of 1902), observes that the Judge never cancelled the order complained of, but only modified it so far as it related to legal practitioners, on the condition that they should not speak before their case came on for hearing. There seems apparently nothing objectionable in the order, but any one who is familiar with the proceedings of a Court will be able to realise what trouble is being caused to the bar and litigants. The Judge has, moreover, adopted curious procedure for expediting the disposal of cases. He employs three or four Munshis besides the Reader to take down the statements of parties in different suits and himself attends to each of them in turn. This leads to great confusion in the work, with the result that the number of cases disposed of daily never exceeds that decided in the time of his predecessors. On the other hand, the extra Munshis being taken away from their proper work, those who happen to have business with them are subjected to great inconvenience. The work of the Munshis also falls into arrears, for which they are fined in contravention of the strict orders of Government. To add to this the Judge does not accord courteous treatment to the public, including respectable pleaders. The Editor feels that neither Sir Charles Rivaz nor Mr. Justice Reid will agree with the Judge in thinking that discourteous treatment adds to the prestige of a Court of justice.

The same

10. The *Ghamkhwar-i-'Alam* (Lahore), of the 22nd June 1902, publishes similar remarks.

11. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, learns that the subordinate officials of the District Judge's Court, Jhelum, are practising great oppression on the people. The (Civil ?) Nazir, as well as the *ahlmad*, extorts money from litigants, while not a few of the local vakils and mukhtars secure clients by currying favour with the munsifs. The Editor, after remarking that similar complaints have reached him from Pind Dadan Khan, urges upon the Chief Court and the District Judge, Jhelum, the advisability of transferring old hands who are taking undue advantage of their relationship with a certain highly-placed official.

A Judicial complaint.

(b)—Police.

12. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, learns from a correspondent that not a single day passes without a fresh case of theft being reported at Rawalpindi. There is no security of life and property, and thefts are sometimes committed in broad daylight. The attention of the local Police is invited to the matter.

Increase of theft cases at Rawalpindi.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

13. The *Mufid-i-'Am Gazette* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, says that the *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot) must have some end in view in spreading an agitation against the local Municipality, seeing that complaints (lit. petitions) have been filed against the Editor (*Sialkot Paper*) and his brother Nanak Chand, Municipal Clerk, by Maila Ram. With reference to the memorial submitted to the Local Government against Lala Nihal Chand (*vide* paragraph 10 of Selections No. 24), the Editor states that efforts are being made to suppress the real facts and to throw difficulties in the way of Lala Nihal Chand by getting him into trouble. He therefore requests the authorities to make inquiries on the following points to arrive at the truth of the matter :—

Lala Nihal Chand, Municipal Commissioner of Sialkot.

(1) Who drafted the memorial referred to above ?

(2) Who secured signature to it ?

(3) Was it read to the memorialists ?

(4) Do the Municipal voters like Lala Nihal Chand or not ?

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th June 1902, remarks that registers have been opened for recording the names of persons entitled to vote at Municipal elections, and that the work of distributing the voters' certificates has been taken in hand. Some of the Hindu and Muhammadan candidates have got the names of persons included in the registers who do not appear to possess the required qualifications. The Editor then goes on to give details of an incident showing how a candidate coerced a certain man to personate a voter. He calls upon the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar to institute secret inquiries and punish those who have been to blame.

The Amritsar Municipal elections.

The Editor reproduces an article published in the issue of the paper dated the 2nd June 1899, and says that the remarks then made in regard to the unfair means employed by candidates to ensure their success apply to the

present occasion. The right of local self-government granted to natives of India has so far proved of no use as the people are unfit to exercise the right of voting. The Editor remarks in conclusion that if the Deputy Commissioner were to pay a surprise visit to the public servants engaged in the distribution of voters' certificates, he would gain an insight into the real state of things.

(d).—Education.

The poverty of India attributed to want of education.

15. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, observes that it is education and education alone that strikes at the root of all social evils, and that it is simply owing to a want of education among the natives of India that so fertile a country is suffering from severe and recurring famines. The plague has also taken root amongst the uneducated natives, who, unlike their European brethren, cannot understand the benefits of sanitary precautions. In short, the poverty of India is attributable to want of education, and the question is, who is to blame? In answering this question the Editor observes that there are several communities in India which differ from each other in social customs and religious beliefs and that it is not an easy task to introduce a uniform system of education among them. It does not seem expedient for Government to interfere in the matter, as such interference is likely to give rise to adverse criticism by the people. He says that it is the duty of social reformers to remove all these differences with a view to introducing a uniform standard of education, and that the Government if applied to will in all probability lend a helping hand.

Complaint against a Schoolmaster.

16. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, learns that one of the teachers of the Hafizabad School is in the habit of mercilessly punishing students of the lower classes. The Editor expresses a hope that some notice will be taken of the conduct of this teacher as the parents of the students concerned are complaining bitterly of his severity.

(e).—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

A complaint against Raja Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot.

17. The *Mufid-i-'Am Gazette* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1902, says that the complaint published in its columns regarding a Revenue Officer which the local print has taken upon itself to contradict (*vide* paragraph 15 of Selections No. 24) was not directed against Raja Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot; but as the paper referred to has elected to defend that officer, the Editor would like to ask what means were used by him to inform litigants of the changes made in his tour programme. As to the days of grace allowed to litigants to present themselves before the Court, he adds that it is idle to expect indigent litigants, including children and old men and women, to overtake the official in his expeditious marches in the two or three days allowed to them. The Editor promises to publish the name of the officer he originally complained against later on.

Extra rent levied by Patwaris on their own behalf.

18. The *Akbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that the Patwaris of the *chaks* newly distributed in the tract lying between Mooltan and Lyallpur are in the habit of realizing extra

rent at the rate of Rs. 1-8-0 per square from the zamindars which they appropriate to their own use. The writer promises to revert to the subject at some length if the grievance is not removed.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Overcrowding in Railway carriages.

19. The *Khair Khwah-i-Hind* (Delhi), of the 24th June 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that the rush of passengers is so great at the Bhopal Station that in the Mail Train which leaves for Delhi at 5 P.M., 15 to 18 passengers are crammed into each compartment and the inconvenience which they have to put up with is unbearable owing to the heat.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Want of a licensed stamp-vendor at Mauza Ghartal, Sialkot District.

20. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 20th June 1902, says that at Mauza Ghartal, Sialkot District, stamped papers are in constant requisition as the residents are mostly engaged in banking business. But as there is no stamp-vendor at the mauza people resort to "legal subterfuges" so as to utilise one anna receipt stamps for bonds which ought to be written on embossed paper. This means a great loss to Government as formerly stamps worth Rs. 300 were sold monthly at Ghartal. The Editor adds that licenses for the sale of stamps have not been granted since Munshi Kanhya Lal took charge of the Daska Tahsil.

Deputy Commissioner Lahore's order to local *Hakims*.

21. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, says that all the local medical practitioners waited upon the Civil Surgeon at his bungalow at 10 A.M. on the 21st June in pursuance of an order of the Deputy Commissioner communicated to them during the week. The Editor states that the wording of the order gave rise to a misconception, for it was intended to invite only the few *Hakims* who possessed diplomas of the Punjab University testifying to their having passed the prescribed examination. He concludes by noting that some of the *Hakims* were kept standing for a considerable time before chairs were provided for them.

The Coronation.

22. One Wazir Chand of Sanba, writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, makes the following suggestions for the commemoration of the Coronation :—

(1) That kine-slaughter should be prohibited in India.

(2) That Government Agricultural Banks should be established to advance money on moderate interest to zamindars.

(3) That ruling power should again be conferred on all such native Chiefs and Rajas as have for special reasons been deposed.

(4) That the "seditious law" (Section 124 A., Indian Penal Code ?) should be repealed.

(5) That proprietors of newspapers should be granted honorary titles for loyal service to Government and the public.

(6) That all prisoners in India should be released.

(7) That infant marriage should be prohibited by law throughout the country.

(8) That the examination for admission to the Civil Service of India should be held in India.

(9) That some special concession should be granted to zamindars, such as the remission of arrears, &c.

(10) That arrangements should be made for the support and maintenance of orphans and widows.

The same.

23. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 20th June 1902, observes that preparations for the Coronation are being energetically made in London, and that in January 1903 a Darbar will be held at Delhi, where the pomp and splendour of the British Empire will be exhibited not only to the natives of the country, but to the representatives of all the Asiatic powers as well. The reins of government, remarks the Editor, were practically assumed by the King-Emperor as soon as the late Queen-Empress breathed her last, but the Coronation ceremonies are intended to serve a different purpose. Besides the representatives of Australia, Canada and the other big Colonies, the Princes of India will attend the Coronation festivities in London, and the great powers of Europe, namely, Germany, France, Russia and others, will be impressed with the grandeur of the British Empire and will realize the great danger of falling out with a mighty nation like the British.

The same.

24. Commenting on the above the Editor observes that the Hindus always considered it a great sin to cross the sea—a superstition which their priests and saints found it impossible to remove. A command from the King-Emperor, however, has, as if by magic, accomplished in a moment what the combined efforts of the *Pandits* and the *Deotas* failed to secure in many years. The Editor then goes on to say that when the Maharaja of Jaipur received an invitation to attend the Coronation in London, he considered it a duty to accept the invitation, but took with him the images of certain Hindus gods. As a matter of fact the Rajas and Maharajas of India are firmly convinced of the absurdity of idol worship, but they lack moral courage and dare not express their views openly. They resort to frivolous expedients to defend their actions and thus make themselves ridiculous in the eyes of the people.

The Delhi Coronation Darbar.

25. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th June 1902, commenting on the programme to be observed at the Delhi Darbar, remarks that it has not been definitely stated yet whether the representatives of only a few of the leading newspapers of Europe and India will be invited or whether invitations will be issued indiscriminately to the representatives of all native, Anglo-Indian and foreign newspapers. The Editor is of opinion that the representatives of only a few Anglo-Indian and English newspapers will in all probability be invited, and that the extravagant hopes entertained by the native newspapers are not likely to be realised.

26. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th June 1902, suggests that a statement should be called for by the Financial Commissioner, Punjab, from District Officers showing the names of such Tahsildars as have remained in one place for five years consecutively. The Editor adds that following the example of the Chief Court, which as a rule transfers Munsifs every three years, Tahsildars should also be transferred after a fixed period.

A suggestion to transfer Tahsildars after a fixed period.

27. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore) of the 20th June 1902, remarks that there is nothing novel or strange about a punkha-coolie being beaten to death by a British soldier at Rawalpindi, for punkha-coolies frequently meet their end thus at the hands of the "brave soldiers of the Government." When lacs of natives are being carried off by famine, plague, &c., there is no reason why the people of this country should feel any surprise at one of their countrymen being killed by a British soldier. The newspapers are in the habit of raising an outcry over the murder of natives by European soldiers and denouncing the Courts for not enforcing the extreme penalty of the law in such cases; but they forget that the trade of a soldier is to destroy human life and that it does not make much difference to him whether he plies his trade in the field of battle or keeps himself in practice in barracks. Government cannot be blamed if such offenders escape scot-free. As a matter of fact the circumstances attending these cases are such that a conviction is well nigh out of the question. What the upshot of the Rawalpindi case will be remains to be seen.

Murder of a punkha-coolie at Rawalpindi.

28. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th June 1902, publishes a communication from Pandit Govind Sahai, Manager of the paper, in which the writer says that he has long been thinking of urging on Hindus the propriety of erecting a temple of their own in London, and that he has hitherto been waiting for a favorable opportunity to introduce the scheme. Seeing that great preparations are being made in connection with the King-Emperor's Coronation, the writer now ventures to lay the proposal before the Hindu public and says that the temple should be erected in a locality where water and other necessaries can be easily procured. It should also contain the images of certain Hindu saints, and there ought to be some open space attached to it where a small number of comfortable rooms for Hindu visitors could be constructed. In one corner of the temple there should be a dharmsala for the Sikhs, and proper arrangements should be made for saying prayers every morning and evening. When the Muhammadans, adds the writer, who are known to bear no comparison with the Hindus in point of wealth, have succeeded in erecting mosques in London and Liverpool, there is no reason why the Hindus should not be able to erect a decent temple in the former place. The writer announces that he intends starting a fund for the purpose and that the names of those subscribing to the fund will be published from time to time in the *Akhbar-i-'Am*. In conclusion he expresses the hope that the scheme will take a tangible form by the time of the Delhi Darbar and that Hindus will consider it a religious duty to contribute to the fund.

A proposal to have a Hindu temple erected in London.

29. The *Ghamkwar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, remarks that Diwan Narendra Nath, M.A., Deputy Commissioner, Gujranwala, has spent fifty thousand rupees on the marriage of his daughter. In honor of the occasion the Diwan gave a garden party to the gentry of the district, hundreds of whom took part in the festivities. People came from Lahore, and the Municipal Commissioners of Gujranwala, Wazirabad, Sohdra, Ramnagar, Akalgarh and Killa Didar Singh, pensioners of Khangah Dogran, sardars of the new Chenab Colony, Tahsildars and Munsifs of the four tahsils, Extra Assistant Commissioners and other officials of the District Court, influential Zaildars, Raises, title-holders and pensioners of the Civil and Military Departments came to congratulate the Diwan, who received them hospitably. Sumptuous refreshments were served, and there was nothing to complain of. The garden was decorated by several portraits of notables, and the festivities were brought to a close by the recital of a poem and a speech prepared specially for the occasion.

Marriage of Diwan Narendra Nath's daughter.

30. Commenting on the above the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd June 1902, says that it is strange that a gentleman of Diwan Narendra Nath's enlightened views should have spent Rs. 50,000 over his daughter's marriage, without contributing a single pice to public or charitable works in honour of the occasion. The example of the Diwan is calculated to have a very injurious effect on the minds of the common people. Referring to the decorations in the Diwan's house, the Editor fails to see why Mr. Kruger's portrait was allowed to hang side by side with that of the King-Emperor and her late Majesty, Queen Victoria.

The same.

31. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, remarks that His Excellency Lord Curzon has since his appointment as Viceroy of India answered, to a large extent, the expectations formed of him, though certain classes of people may have been disappointed in their extravagant desires. The Editor then quotes from the speech delivered by His Excellency in the Legislative Council on the introduction of a Bill for a special duty on imported sugar, and concludes by remarking that it is high time that the Indian public should profit by the valuable advice offered by the Viceroy to develope the resources of their own country.

Advice by the Viceroy regarding the development of indigenous resources.

32. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 19th June 1902, commenting upon the views expressed by the *Pioneer* and the *Vakil* (Amritsar), regarding Sardar Ayub Khan's recent visit to Simla, says that the latter paper has been led to draw strange inferences from a trivial incident. The Sardar after a long but unsuccessful struggle for the throne of Kabul is at present passing his days in perfect peace under the protection of the British Government, and it is hardly likely that he would have gone to Simla with a political object in view. Such a surmise on the part of the *Vakil*, adds the Editor, is quite unjustifiable and is calculated to hurt the feelings of the Sardar and to embitter the good relations existing between Amir Habib-ullah Khan and the British Government.

Sardar Ayub Khan's visit to Simla.

Publication of obscene works.

83. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1902, referring to an article published in the *Nasar-i-Asam*, eulogising the conduct of the former paper in refusing to publish advertisements about an obscene work, called the Kok Shastar, observes that the refusal caused a loss of Rs. 50 over and above the amount that would have been earned in advertisement charges. The Editor then quotes a passage from the article bearing on the undesirability of publishing obscene writings, and concludes by calling upon the Authorities to take immediate steps to stop the publication of the Kok Shastar.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway Fund.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 20th June 1902 ...	...	457	6	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	91	10	0
Total	...	549	0	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	5,846	5	10
Grand Total	...	6,395	5	10

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th June 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	9,882	4	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	16	2	0
Total	...	*9,898	6	11

* Of this amount Rs. 9,142-9-6 have been remitted to Constantinople in three instalments.

The same.

3. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 28th June 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	569	15	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	63	4	0
Total	...	†632	3	0

† ? 633.

(b)—Home.

4. The *Shokh* (Amritsar), of the 25th June 1902, takes exception to the proposal to make the Indian Exchequer pay 1½ crores of rupees on account of bounties for time-expired soldiers. The Editor, after remarking that the Anglo-Indian Press and the British Parliament are said to have condemned the proposal, adds that he is not a believer in the sincerity of these protests. They are no more than political dodges resorted to for the ruin of India. He then goes on to say that last year India was granted one crore of rupees on the recommendation of the Welby Commission, and that she (India) is now required to pay back 1½ crores. He feels certain that the British Government in its treatment of India acts on the principle of "robbing Peter to pay Paul."

India and bounties for time-expired soldiers.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

5. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 27th June 1902, referring to a note published in the *Pioneer* to the effect that some orthodox Hindus of Bengal had gone to England to attend the Coronation on the pretence that they were going to certain places of pilgrimage, remarks that it was very unbecoming of these men to deceive their caste-fellows who object to associate with those who have polluted themselves by crossing the seas. It is a pity, adds the Editor, that while other nations have gained considerably by the Coronation, the natives of India have only learnt how to play false to their own brethren.

The Coronation and the sea voyage for Hindus.

6. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 17th June 1902, publishes an article by one Maulvi Muhammad Ahsan, Amrohi, in support of the "Promised Messiah" of Qadian in his crusade against the Christian religion which is described as false and mere worship of the cross.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

7. The *Anwar-ul-Islam* (Sialkot), of April (received on the 2nd July) 1902, says that Hakim Sant Ram has misinterpreted the verse of the Quran which runs "O, true believers, if ye assist God, He will assist you," by representing it as being applicable to the doctrine of *Jehad*. As a matter of fact the verse is intended to be a promise of help to true believers to keep them from stumbling if they pursue the right path. The Editor, after remarking that the Hakim's dull intellect or prejudice has prevented him from interpreting the verse aright, says that he (the Editor) has collected in his book entitled the "Rad-ul-Khatrat" some of the Vedic *Mantras* inculcating the doctrines of *Jehad* as the first and foremost duty. He then quotes an extract from the Yajarveda, Chapter 34, *Mantra* 46, with the object of showing that the *Parmeshwar* (of the Aryas) is a helpless being, who from his seat on high invites the help of man with a view to conquering countries.

The Quran and the doctrine of *Jehad*.

8. The same paper says that the prophecies of Jesus being no more than mere predictions about earthquakes, famines and wars, it is strange that He should have been credited with divine attributes on the strength of such prescience. There is nothing peculiar in wars, &c., which happen in the natural course of things;

Jesus Christ.

but Jesus exalted His utterances to "prophecies" at the importunity of the Jews. The Editor adds that it was a clever expedient on the part of Jesus to call those who asked for a sign "an evil and adulterous generation."

The same.

9. The same paper says that a perusal of the Gospel according to St. Matthew shows that the God of the Christians possessed a very ordinary intellect, as, like ignorant women and common people, he considered people attacked with epilepsy to be possessed by devils. The Editor adds that Jesus was addicted to the use of abusive language, that he had an irritable temper and could not control his passions. But these outbursts of passion are not to be wondered at, for when Jesus used abusive language, the Jews had recourse to blows.

The alleged antiquity of the Vedas challenged.

10. The Editor of the same paper, in the course of a long article, remarks that the Aryas represent the Vedas to be inspired writings on the ground that they are the most ancient books extant. But this claim would become untenable if it were proved that these books were of comparatively modern date. He then quotes extracts from the Vedas in support of his contention that the books are not of ancient date.

The Christian religion.

11. The same paper of the 1st May 1902 publishes an attack on the Christian religion in which the charges of immorality against Christ, the Virgin Mary and her mother are repeated, and certain questions are asked to which Christians are challenged to find answers.

The Quran and the Vedas.

12. The same paper remarks in the course of an article that Hindus are making vain efforts to trim the dying lamp of the Vedas in order to make it hold its own against the sun of righteousness, *viz.*, the Quran. The Quran by introducing into the world the doctrine of the unity of God has completely eclipsed the doctrine of polytheism inculcated by the Vedas. While the Quran teaches unitarianism, the Vedas have only served to produce infidels and heretics in the world. It was only after the lapse of thousands of years, adds the Editor, that it occurred to Swami Dayanand to so interpret the Vedas as to make the world believe that the doctrine of the unity of God was a cardinal principle of Hinduism. The Editor, then, speaking of the doctrine of *niyog* taught by the Vedas, observes that any one acting up to the doctrine is liable to prosecution under Section 494, Indian Penal Code. He remarks in conclusion that Mirza Ghulam Ahamd of Qadian and other learned Maulvis have from time to time published complete refutations of the criticisms made of the tenets of Islam by Pandit Lekh Ram and other Aryas.

The Theosophical Society.

13. The *Sanatan Dharm Gazette* (Lahore), for June 1902, remarks that in an article appearing in the *Bharat Partap* for March last an insinuation seems to have been made to the effect that the Theosophical Society is in reality opposed to Hinduism. The Editor observes that the *Bharat Partap* is not justified in preferring a charge of insincerity against a Society which is guided in all its

aims and objects by the pursuit of motives and has proved a boon to the Hindu community which was badly in need of such intelligent exponents of their faith as are to be found among the members of this Society. There can be no denying the fact, says the Editor, that the principles which guide the Society are deserving of the highest approbation from the Hindu public. The Society was once suspected of exciting disaffection towards the British Government, but it turned out, after a prolonged and expensive secret enquiry, that the suspicions were quite unfounded. The Editor concludes by saying that Native Chiefs of the rank of the Maharaja of Kashmir lent their support to the Society, which reckons amongst its distinguished members the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Protul Chander Chatterji, Judge, Chief Court, Punjab; Dewan Hari Chand, Member of Council, Kapurthala; Doctor Pandit Balkishen Kaul; Rai Ram Sarn Das and Bhai Manohar Lal of Lahore.

The coming Delhi Darbar and a general religious conference.

14. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st July 1902, publishes a communication from one Abdul Aziz of Delhi in which the writer says that it is desirable to commemorate the King-Emperor's Coronation at Delhi by holding a general meeting under the auspices of Government at which persons professing the various religions of the world should meet. Such a gathering would tend to remove, to a large extent, the religious prejudices and the invidious caste distinctions, which are at the bottom of all the social evils that India is suffering from. The writer then goes on to affirm that it is quite within the range of possibility to carry out the proposal, and, in support of his views, refers to the meetings of a similar character held formerly at Lahore, Ajmere, &c., and quite recently at Chicago.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

Refutation of a charge against the Munsif of Wazirabad.

15. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 30th June 1902, publishes a communication intended to refute the charge made in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 10th ultimo, against Munshi Bishambar Das, Munsif at Wazirabad. The writer says that the Munsif is a just, honest, conscientious, impartial, diligent and well-behaved officer, and is never know to have shown partiality to any local Pleader. The charge referred to above most probably owes its origin to a personal grudge against the Pleader, the object of the writer to the *Tribune* being to discredit him (the Pleader) in the eyes of the authorities.

Public servants and their relations.

16. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st July 1902, warns Government against the mistake of posting officials to their native places or where their relatives reside. The Editor adds that officers so circumstanced generally join factions and take the side of their kinsmen. And even if they stand aloof, their official position is taken advantage of by their relations.

A suggestion that Cantonment Magistrates should not be allowed to try cases instituted by themselves as Secretaries of Cantonment Committees.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st July 1902, suggests that a section should be added to the Cantonment Act and Code to the effect that Cantonment Magistrates who are also Secretaries of Cantonment Committees shall not be allowed to try cases taken up at their own

instance. Since District Magistrates are not authorised to try cases instituted by themselves, there is no reason why Cantonment Magistrates should be allowed to do so.

(b)—Police.

The Punjab Police and its uniform.

18. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1902, after giving a short review of the origin of the Punjab Police Force, says that during Mr. Turton Smith's tenure of office general opinion was in favour of replacing the *chapkan* worn by Deputy Inspectors and Inspectors by a coat of English pattern with collar. The proposed change was not carried into effect for financial reasons, although long boots were replaced by *puttis* and English-made boots. The Editor then goes on to say that the long blouse recently substituted for the *chapkan* with a P. P. badge on the shoulder has done away with all distinctions of rank, thereby lowering the prestige of Native Police Officers in the eyes of the public. Moreover, by discarding the former uniform at a stroke, the Police Native Officers will suffer, as a body, a loss amounting to thousands of rupees. He would therefore, on behalf of the Police, request the Inspector-General to allow its Native Officers the use of their former uniform for two years longer, in case the retention of the former uniform or the introduction of an English pattern coat with collar is deemed undesirable.

Mendicants and their connection with crime.

19. The same paper publishes a communication from one Nabi Bakhsh of Hoshiarpur, in which the writer says that the crowds of mendicants thronging public roads and thoroughfares in Indian towns besides being a burden upon the people and setting a demoralising example, not infrequently, under the sacred garb of *sadus* or *fakirs*, cheat the credulous and act as accomplices of dakaits by supplying them with information. Many cases of housebreaking which the Police are powerless to work out are the doing of these so-called *fakirs*, who are generally neither more nor less than professional criminals in disguise. In order to remedy this the writer suggests that all *fakirs* and *sadus* travelling from one place to another should be required to provide themselves with a passport, containing their name, parentage and description, and signed by the Deputy Inspector or Lambardar of their place of residence, which should be shown to the Deputy Inspector or Lambardar of the town or village visited by them. The writer adds that mendicants who remain in particular localities should also be required to obtain a "pass" annually. He concludes by remarking that poor-houses would also serve as a check to the increase of beggars, if Government could be persuaded to try the experiment.

A suggestion to increase the pay of Deputy Inspectors of Police.

20. The same paper says that it is idle to suppose that a Deputy Inspector drawing Rs. 40 a month can maintain his position as an Executive Officer without resorting to unlawful practices. The Editor adds that until their pay is raised and an allowance fixed for various Police Stations, the stigma of dishonesty will never be removed from the Police.

21. The same paper publishes a strongly-worded communication in which the writer says that a Police Constable who gets only Rs. 7 a month must contrive to live somehow, and that if he is not all that can be desired, the fault lies to no small extent at the door of the Government which pays him such a paltry salary. If the Constable's pay were raised to Rs. 12 a month the writer feels confident that all complaints of bribery, &c., would disappear. He is, however, afraid that Government will never do anything to better the lot of the poor and foolish Policeman, although it would not hesitate to sanction an increase of a thousand or two to the pay of a high-placed English official.

A suggestion to increase the pay of Police Constables.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

22. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st June 1902, after reiterating the charges preferred by if from time to time against Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality, takes exception to the proposal for giving the Secretary an increment of Rs. 100. The Editor then repeats his objection to the proposed grant of Rs. 500 to Mr. Gardener, alleging that the increase in the Municipal income from octroi for last year was not due to good management on the part of the Secretary.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

(d)—Education.

23. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 30th June 1902, publishes a communication from "a Schoolmaster," in which the writer refutes the charges of "reprehensible dealings" with students and their parents brought against the teachers of village schools (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 24). Lambardars, says the writer, who prove themselves too astute and knowing for Pleaders, are not likely to play into the hands of Schoolmasters. After remarking that the complaint must have been prompted by some personal grudge, he requests the correspondent of the *Taj-ul-Akhbar* to leave poor teachers alone and select some antagonist worthy of his steel. He concludes by expressing a hope that Government will take notice of the matter.

A contradiction.

24. The same paper publishes a communication from one Akmal of Golki, Gujrat District, in which the writer expresses himself opposed to the policy of frequent transfers of teachers on the following grounds :—

The injurious effects of frequent transfers of Schoolmasters.

(1) That frequent transfers eliminate the most important factor in education, *viz.*, the teacher's influence over and affection for the pupil ;

(2) That steady application to work is not possible ;

(3) That a newly-transferred teacher cannot hold himself responsible for the results of annual examinations ;

(4) and (5) That students will not take kindly to newly-appointed teachers, and schools consequently suffer ;

(6) That teachers possessing some influence over zamindars can induce the latter to send their sons to school ;

(7) That an experienced teacher alone knows how to handle his pupils.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

25. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 28th June 1902, referring to a complaint lodged by a Lambardar against a chaprasi in connection with the realisation of Government revenue in the Montgomery District, remarks that Tahsil Officers should not resort to means for the collection of Government demands which are likely to give offence to the public. The Editor then goes on to say that it is a pity the overbearing conduct of Tahsil officials is not brought to the notice of the Collector, and that that officer is not informed of the fact that persons are often appointed Lambardars who are quite unfitted for the duties of the post.

A complaint in connection with the realisation of Government revenue.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

26. The *Shokh* (Amritsar), of the 25th June 1902, complains that passengers are put to great inconvenience owing to rupees coined in 1835 and 1840 not being accepted at Railway Stations (*vide* paragraph 20 of Selections No. 23). The Editor suggests that either the circulation of these coins should be entirely stopped, or Railway authorities again directed not to decline to accept them when tendered for the purchase of tickets.

Non-acceptance by Railways of rupees coined in 1835 and 1840.

27. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 30th June 1902, remarks that although the duties of a pointsman are of a very important nature and the least negligence on his part might result in a serious Railway accident, it is strange that very low caste men are appointed to these posts. A small increase in the pay, adds the Editor, would induce men of some standing and education to accept these posts. He then mentions the case of a pointsman employed at the Sirsa Railway Station who goes about begging alms in the streets after his day's work is finished.

A suggestion to increase the pay of pointsmen.

28. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st July 1902, complains that the Municipal hydrants at the Sialkot Railway Station are not well supplied with water; for instance, they were quite empty on the 28th June. The fact being brought to the notice of Lala Bahadur Chand, the local Station Master, he pointed it out to the Sub-Divisional Officer who happened to be present at the time. The Editor concludes by remarking that complaints regarding defective water arrangements will continue to be made until the water taps at the Railway Station are placed in the immediate charge of the Station Master.

Defective arrangements for drinking-water at the Sialkot Railway Station.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

29. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 28th June 1902, writing about the proposal made by the Manager of the *Akhbár-i-'Am* to start a fund for the erection of a Hindu temple in London (*vide* para. 28 of Selections No. 27) observes that the scheme is no doubt a laudable one, but its success will be doubtful if it is placed in the hands of a person whose motives are not above suspicion.

The proposed erection of a Hindu temple in London.

30. The *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 30th June 1902, remarks that the news of the serious illness of His Majesty the King-Emperor came upon the people like a bolt from the blue amidst grand preparations, and transformed their joy into deep anxiety. Seldom has the world witnessed a spectacle more grand and impressive than the preparations to celebrate the Coronation of the Great Emperor, and it would be vain to search in history for a parallel to the deeply touching incident of the postponement of the ceremonies. The impression made by the sad intelligence in India, adds the Editor, will give some idea of the shock caused by the news in the city which was to be the centre of the rejoicings, as well as in other great cities of the British Empire. The Editor then goes on to draw a moral from this sad incident, and observes that even a mighty Emperor whose dominions extend to all the corners of the earth has to bow his head before the dispensations of Providence and to resign himself to God's will. It seems that the King had been suffering for some days, but the news of his illness was withheld in order to avoid disappointing the public. The Editor concludes by remarking that at the present moment the hearts of all people in all the vast Empire over which His Majesty rules have been directed to the throne of the Giver of all good, to Whom they offer earnest and sincere prayers for the King's speedy recovery.

The King's illness and the postponement of the Coronation.

31. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st July 1902, the *Ashraf-ul-Akhbar* (Delhi), of the same date, the *Watan* (Lahore) of the 4th July 1902, and the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th July 1902, make similar remarks regarding the King's illness and the postponement of the Coronation.

The same.

32. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 29th June 1902, says that the post of Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner and Sub-Registrar, Lahore, having fallen vacant owing to the death of the late incumbent, Sheikh Nanak Bakhsh, a choice might be made out of the following candidates to fill the vacancy :—

The post of Honorary Extra Assistant Commissioner and Sub-Registrar, Lahore.

(1) Sardar Raza Ali Khan, retired Extra Assistant Commissioner of Lahore ;

(2) Diwan Harnam Das, Honorary Magistrate of Lahore ;

(3) Khan Bahadur Munshi Sazawar, retired Postmaster of Lahore ;

(4) Diwan Bhagwan Das, Honorary Magistrate of Lahore.

33. One Muhammad Hanif, merchant, Simla Market, writing to the *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1902, complains that while persons travelling in tongas or bullock-carts to Simla are allowed to pass, other passengers are detained for several hours at the Tara Devi Plague Post for disinfection. He adds that no satisfactory arrangements have been made for *parda-nashin* ladies, who have to walk about half a mile to reach the place where disinfection is carried out, and here they are made to sit in the same room with prostitutes and low caste women. After remarking that there is no latrine for females, he extols the services of Lala Raja Ram, Deputy Inspector, and the Police force under his charge stationed at Tara Devi.

The plague.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—18-7-02—91.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 29.]

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FROM THE

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Natal Government and natives of India.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th July 1902, regrets to observe that the people of Natal do not treat their Indian fellow-subjects with consideration. The Government of Natal, the Editor says, disregarding the services rendered by natives of India during the late Transvaal War, have decided that medals in honour of the Coronation should be granted to all students in Natal with the exception of those from India. The Natal Government do not appear to have passed the order from considerations of economy, seeing that the number of Indian students is comparatively very small. The Editor concludes by saying that it is time that the British Government showed their desire to deal impartially with Europeans and natives of India by cancelling the above order as well as by abolishing the poll-tax of Rs. 45 per head recently imposed on natives of India in South Africa.

The Hedjas Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th and 11th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged...	...	9,898	6	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	177	7	0
One copy of the Quran from the Lami-ul Anwar Press, Agra ...	...	4	8	0
Total	...	*10,080	5	11

* Rs. 9,142-9-6 have already been remitted by three instalments through the National Bank to Constantinople.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 4th July 1902	...	549	0	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	27	7	0
Total	...	576	7	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	5,846	5	10
Total amount	...	6,422	12	10

4. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 9th July 1902, says that the enthusiasm with which the Musalmans of India have of late been raising funds for the Hedjaz Railway is receiving admiration beyond India, especially in Turkey and Egypt. Thanks to newspapers, India is becoming better acquainted with other Muhammadan countries. The proposal of Maulvi Abdul Qazam, late District Officer in the dominions of His Highness the Nizam, to appoint an influential commission to work in aid of the Hedjaz Railway, especially on the occasion of the Dehli Darbar, has been generally approved by the Press of India, and is now being particularly noticed by foreign papers as well. A letter in Persian addressed to the *Misbah-ul-Sharq* of Egypt, mentioning this plan with approval, has elicited favourable comment from the paper itself. Among those who have been inducing people to contribute to this sacred fund, the paper mentions Maulvi Insha Ullah of the *Watan* (Lahore), saying that the names of all those who support the cause will become household words in Islam throughout the world. Commenting on the above, the Editor says that as a matter of fact the idea of the Hedjaz Railway originated with Maulvi Insha Ullah, and that it was through his efforts as Editor of the *Vakil* (of Amritsar) that the Sublime Porte's attention was drawn to the matter.

The same.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1902, remarks that judging from the reports published from time to time in the newspapers about the subscriptions raised for the Hedjaz Railway Fund, it seems absolutely necessary to call upon Muhammadans to shake off their lethargy and devote themselves earnestly to this sacred cause. While heavy expenses are being incurred in making preparations for the coming Darbar at Delhi, nothing seems to have been done to show that Mulla Abdul Qayum's scheme to organise an influential commission to raise subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar has commended itself to the public. The Editor concludes by asking Muhammadans to bear in mind that it is their religious duty to contribute liberally to the fund.

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1902, reprints a letter in Persian addressed to the *Misbah-ul-Sharaq* of Egypt in which the writer remarks that the natives of India are always ready to bestir themselves in aid of a religious movement. He approves of the plan of Mulla Abdul Qayum regarding the

appointing of a commission to raise funds for the Hedjaz Railway on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar, and concludes by saying that the names of Maulvi Muhammad Insha Ullah of the *Waian* and Mulla Abdul Qayum will always be mentioned with praise among those who have been foremost in inducing people to contribute to this fund.

(b)—Home.

Dismissal of a Sikh soldier from the Army.

7. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 12th July 1902, publishes a communication from one Ver Singh, teacher of the Bhai Phairo School, Lahore District, in which the writer complains that Indar Singh, son of Nihal Singh, Kapur, of Bhai Phairo, Tahsil Chunian, after serving one year three months and thirteen days has been dismissed from the 47th Sikhs (Sialkot) on account of his being a Khatri by caste. He requests the Editor to bring the case to the notice of the Officer Commanding the 47th Sikhs or the Commander-in-Chief with reference to the Government order which removed the disabilities under which Khatris formerly laboured in regard to employment in the Army.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

A suggestion to suppress lawlessness on the frontier.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th July 1902, after remarking that lawlessness on the frontier does not appear to decline, suggests that with a view to suppressing crime the local Sardars should be vested with the powers of Honorary Magistrates in their respective *ilaqas*, care being taken that they do not abuse their authority by wreaking vengeance on their personal enemies.

III.—Native States.

The Nawab of Bahawalpur and the State service.

9. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th July 1902, remarks that some Congress papers have been indulging in wild comments over a passage in the diary of His Highness the Nawab of Bahawalpur, published recently in the *Bahawalpur Akhbar*. Indeed one of the Bengali papers has gone so far as to publish the passage under the sensational heading of "An Anti-Hindu Crusade." It is not easy to understand, adds the Editor, why the Hindu papers are raising an outcry over His Highness's just orders, and why efforts are being made to create estrangement between Hindus and Muhammadans. It is an open secret now that Muhammadans have been complaining all over India about the existing racial disproportion in the public service, and resolutions have been passed by the various Local Governments to remedy the evil. The Nawab of Bahawalpur is therefore perfectly justified in issuing a reasonable order, which is briefly to the effect that the Muhammadans of the State being five times as numerous as the Hindus and Sikhs put together, the proportion of 1 : 2 be gradually introduced of Hindu to Muhammadan officials, and that a periodical statement be furnished showing what action has been taken in carrying out this order. The Editor then goes on to say that a judicious division of the official loaves and fishes between the various communities is not only necessary in the interests of justice, but is also calculated to remove all the evils arising from the preponderance of one race in the public service. It is,

moreover, not the first time that such directions have been issued by His Highness. Similar directions were given before by the Superintendent of the State, Colonel Grey, the value of whose experience and knowledge of the State is admitted on all hands.

The same.

10. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th July 1902, the *Qaysar Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th July 1902, the *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 5th July 1902, the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 7th July 1902, and the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th July 1902 publish similar remarks.

Kashmir affairs.

11. The *Chaudhloin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th July 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that it was a pitiful sight to see more than two thousand five hundred persons, unfortunate Muhammadans, bewailing their lot in the streets of Srinagar on being forcibly turned out of the Vachheygam Valley in Kashmir which had been their home for the last seven centuries. It is rumoured, says the writer, that the "dirty Kashmiris" will be likewise expelled from other places the climate of which is healthy and invigorating. He adds that in Srinagar the octroi duty has been increased on eatables, and that great oppression is being practised on the unlucky Muhammadans by the State officials.

Sukst affairs.

12. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th July 1902, referring to the *Samachar's* remark that Mr. Anderson, Commissioner of Jullundur, was prejudiced against the Raja of Suket (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 21), says the object of that journal in making the accusation was to screen Dusht Nikandan Sain and discredit the Commissioner. The Editor is afraid that Government by suffering such unfounded charges to be published against its servants lowers their prestige in the eyes of the public. He would therefore advise the Government to effectually stop the mouth of the Raja by awarding him condign punishment for his crimes. The Editor then goes on to relate how the people of Suket are oppressed by their Ruler, who does not hesitate to put them to death if they presume to bring their grievances to the notice of Government. Numbers of them have migrated to the Mandi State to escape the persecutions of their Raja.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

A *jhatka* case.

13. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 7th July 1902, reports that on the 3rd idem a Hindu was taken before the Police for slaughtering a goat by *jhatka* in the bazar. The accused pleaded ignorance of the law when brought before the Tahsildar. The Editor learns that the Musalmans of Jhelum intend to file a separate complaint against the accused.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Nadwat-ul-Ulema.

14. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1902, remarks that the dates fixed for the sittings of the Nadwat-ul-Ulema at Amritsar this year have already been announced. The people of Amritsar have subscribed Rs. 2,000 to meet the cost of boarding and lodging all the guests and preparing a suitable *pandal*, but the total expenditure is estimated at Rs. 3,000. The balance of one

thousand rupees required is to be subscribed by Muhammadans of other places, and with this object, as well as with a view to enlist the sympathies of the public on behalf of the movement, Maulvi Ghulam Muhammad and Maulvi Sadr-ud-din have gone out on tour from Amritsar. They arrived at Lahore last week and from there they will proceed to Gujranwala, Sialkot, Gujrat, Jhelum and other important places in the Northern Punjab. The Editor concludes by expressing a hope that the Maulvis will receive sympathy and encouragement in their mission wherever they go.

The *Paisa Akhbar* and Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

15. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 11th June 1902, publishes a communication from one Salig Ram of Abbottsbad, who quotes a paragraph from the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th ultimo, in which the Editor of that paper expresses his inability to accept an invitation to visit Kadian on the ground that the *Hakam* has published a prophecy relating to his (the Editor's) death, and that the followers of the "Prophet of Kadian" are capable of resorting to foul means to bring about the fulfilment of prophecies made by their leader. The writer points out that when the late Pandit Lekh Ram's murder was attributed to the Kadian party, the *Paisa Akhbar* in a leading article took up the cudgels on behalf of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and controverted the arguments of the Aryas. After a lapse of several years, however, the same paper has changed front by bringing against the "Prophet of Kadian" charges similar to those the Aryas made against him.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

Friction between the Rawalpindi Bar and a Magistrate.

16. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 5th July 1902, remarks that the local Bar Association has passed a resolution to the effect that none of its members should appear in the Court of a certain Magistrate until the latter tenders an apology for using offensive language towards a certain Pleader. The resolution, adds the Editor, is likely to bear hard upon litigants in the Court of the Magistrate. It is noted in another place in the same paper that a reconciliation has been effected between the Bar and the Magistrate.

The Small Cause Court, Lahore.

17. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1902, in continuation of its remarks about the Small Cause Court, Lahore (*vide* paragraph 9 of Selections No. 27), says that the Judge has remitted the fines imposed by him on certain members of his establishment, but has not yet discontinued his curious procedure for the disposal of cases. The Editor expresses a hope that such irregularities will not be continued under the very nose of the Chief Court, and concludes by reproducing from the *Tribune* of the 26th June last some examples of the irregularities referred to.

The same.

18. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of 12th July 1902, remarks that the Divisional Judge of Lahore paid a surprise visit to the Small Cause Court on the 9th instant to enquire into the complaints published in several newspapers against Lala Jya Ram, B.A., Judge of the Court. First of all the Divisional Judge enquired

into the allegations made as to the novel procedure adopted by the Court, and recorded the statements of a number of the Court officials, including Munshi Nisar Ahmad, Registrar, who exposed many irregularities by referring to files of cases. The officials on whom fines were imposed were also examined. Lala Aya Ram pleaded malice on the part of the Registrar and the legal practitioners, and said that he had been serving Government satisfactorily for 22 years. The legal practitioners and litigants present complained verbally to the Divisional Judge; and those who happened to be in the Court at the time are of opinion that all the allegations were proved before that officer. In the above circumstances it will probably be considered necessary to transfer Lala Aya Ram from Lahore. In conclusion the Editor says that it has been discovered that the Divisional Judge paid the visit under instructions from the Chief Court.

Mr. Calvert's departure from Lahore.

19. The same paper says that Mr. Calvert, City Magistrate, Lahore, proceeded on three months' leave on the 9th instant, and that a large number of native gentlemen, including *raises*, legal practitioners, tradesmen, medical practitioners, Government officials, Editors of newspapers and other respectable men of the City went to the Railway Station to bid him good-bye. The Editor remarks that such a large assemblage was never seen before at the Railway Station on the departure of any Assistant Commissioner, except Lieutenant Crosthwaite. All the gentlemen present at the station prayed for Mr. Calvert's safe return, and expressed a hope that he would again be posted to Lahore.

(b)—Police.

A suggestion to increase the pay of Deputy Inspectors of Police.

20. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th July 1902, writing about Police reforms, suggests that Deputy Inspectors of the 1st, 2nd and 3rd Grades should in future be paid at the rate of Rs. 100, Rs. 80 and Rs. 60 per mensem.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

21. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th July 1902, after pointing out that Municipal carts are being employed to convey *debris* to raise the level of the land, bought by a certain local *rais*, situated outside the Ram Bagh and Mohan Singh gates, asks whether the use of Municipal conveyance was formally sanctioned by the Committee, and whether the latter are to receive any payment for the use of their carts. The Editor points out that as earth for raising this land is removed from the sides of Municipal roads, it is feared that the roots of trees planted on the roadside will be laid bare, and that the water which will collect in the excavations will be a source of great inconvenience to wayfarers during the rainy season. He adds that four months ago Mr. Gardener sold, by private auction, the manure gathered outside the Lahori Gate to one Kalu, tobacconist, for Rs. 2,000, while a tender of Rs. 3,000 was refused. Referring to the permit forms (*vide* paragraph 19 of Selections No. 25), the *Gazette* asks why they were printed a second time in the Municipal Press, seeing that Ghulam Muhammad had already furnished the Committee

with a year's supply. The Editor is afraid that either Ghulam Muhammad presented a bill for the forms without having actually supplied them, or that they were subsequently lost when in the charge of the Octroi Tahsildar.

Defalcations in the Octroi Department, Lahore.

22. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 12th July 1902, publishes a brief account of the defalcations made by certain Muharrirs in the Octroi Department of the Lahore Municipality who were in the habit of selling octroi receipts, thereby enabling their purchasers to import goods into the City without paying any duty. Lala Narinjan Das, President of the Financial Sub-Committee, caught the accused in the act, and they were subsequently suspended. The Editor holds the Octroi Tahsildar responsible, as defalcations were carried on in his office.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

A complaint against Raja Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot.

23. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th July 1902, would like to know the number of revenue suits and miscellaneous petitions dismissed in default by Raja Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot, between December 1901 and 30th June 1902. The Editor, after condemning the practice of dismissing such petitions, asks if there were any suits which came on for hearing during Raja Ata Ullah Khan's tour at some place situated in the *west* of the district while the parties concerned were summoned to present themselves at some place in the *east*. When such a highly-placed Executive Officer abuses the procedure laid down for the dismissal of cases in default, what is to deter Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars from following his example. The Editor concludes by remarking that he is willing to publish a contradiction of the charges made against Raja Ata Ullah Khan if they are false; but trusts that Government will take due notice of the complaints if they prove to be well founded.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A Railway complaint.

24. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th July 1902, says that no notice has yet been taken of the complaint published in its columns about the exorbitant prices that are charged for eatables at the Wazirabad Station. The Editor also complains that Police Constables do not allow passengers to purchase tickets or come on the platform without first levying blackmail from them.

(g)—Postal matters.

Delivery of post delayed at Gujrat.

25. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th July 1902, complains that letters, &c., which reach Gujrat by the 5-40 P.M. Mail train are distributed the next day at 8-20 A.M. This delay of about 15 hours is a source of great inconvenience to the public.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Income tax.

26. The *Mufid-i-'Am Gazette* (Sialkot), of the 1st (received on the 14th) July 1902, after remarking that the system of assessing income tax now in vogue stands in need of being revised, says that the statements of income filed by the people

should be accepted as true; that in case they are regarded as untrustworthy, the burden of proof should, in all fairness, lie upon the officer impugning their correctness. The Editor further remarks that in order to prevent unfair assessment, Government servants should be held liable to pay the costs of cases in which objections filed against their assessments are accepted. In conclusion, he suggests that a detailed statement of the income assessed should be supplied to the person upon whom income tax is imposed, and that assessment work should be entrusted to a Committee composed of respectable and impartial members.

The proposal for the erection of a Hindu temple in London.

27. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 5th July 1902, observes in the course of some remarks about the proposal for the erection of a Hindu temple in London (*vide* paragraph 28 of Selections No. 27) that if the proposal is, by God's grace, carried into effect, it will tend to remove all apprehensions as to the pollution of a Hindu's faith by reason of a visit to England, and that it will also enable the British Nation to see the Hindu religion in its true colours, for Christian Missionaries have hitherto made all sorts of misrepresentations about it. The Muhammadans have already realised this, and if the Hindus and Sikhs were to join hands, there is every reason to believe that their combined efforts would be crowned with success.

Panjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—24-7-02—70.

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	10,080	5	11
(1) Sheikh Muhammad Sultan, Supervisor, Military Works, Kulaba Khurd, Bombay	778	0	0
(2) Through Sheikh Muhammad Sultan, Supervisor, Military Works, Kulaba Khurd, Bombay	247	0	0
(3) A Munshi Aziz-ud-din, Chitral ...	1	0	0
Total* ...	11,106	5	11

*Of this sum Rs. 9,142-9-6 have been remitted by three instalments to Constantinople.

The same.

2. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th and 19th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	30	9	0
Small subscriptions	20	0	0
Total ...	50	9	0

The same.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	576	7	0
Small subscriptions	...	110	8	0
Total*	...	686	15	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	5,846	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	6,533	4	10

*Of this amount Rs. 606-12-0 were remitted to His Excellency Rishad Pasha, Finance Minister and President, Hedjaz Railway Commission, Constantinople, on the 15th July 1902.

The same.

4. The same paper mentions that the Hedjaz Railway Committee, Bombay, has remitted fifteen thousand rupees to Constantinople lately, one Muhammadan contributing Rs. 5,000.

Complaints against the extortions of the *Sharif* of Mecca.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th July 1902, publishes a communication from one Muhammad Abdul Nabi of Hyderabad (Deccan), in which the writer says that since the appointment of Ou'n-ul-Rafiq as *Sharif* of Mecca extortion and cruelty have prevailed. Several respectable families of Mecca have migrated to Egypt, Yemen and Hyderabad to escape persecution at the hands of their unscrupulous *Sharif*, while pilgrims have been sorely oppressed and burdened with unlawful taxes. But, strange to say, adds the writer, the complaints referred to above have not been brought to the notice of the Sultan. After giving a list of the illegal taxes imposed by the *Sharif* on pilgrims during the last *Haj*, he urges the Sultan's Government to appoint a Commission to make enquiries and make the *Sharif* refund the money extorted from pilgrims.

The same.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th July 1902, publishes a communication on the same subject in which the writer, after referring to the famine in Mecca, says that, next to Turkey, the Government of India is responsible for the high prices prevailing, seeing that a very large amount of grain is exported from India and the majority of merchants residing in Mecca are British subjects. He adds that as long as the British Government was represented by conscientious officials no irregularities were allowed ; even cases of petty oppression were taken notice of. All this is changed now. Several robberies were committed lately on the road leading to Jedda, in which property was looted and lives lost. Those who escaped the highwaymen had to submit to being fleeced by the *Sharif*. The Indian pilgrims were made to pay various exorbitant and vexatious taxes: indeed, some had nothing left to pay their fare home.

The same.

7. Commenting on the above, the Editor says that whether the Turkish Government knows of the oppression and cruelties of the *Sharif* or not, the state of things prevailing at Mecca amounts to culpable neglect of duty on their part. He

adds that it is generally believed that Sultan Abdul Hamid is conniving at the *Sharif's* irregularities to prevent him from intriguing with European Powers, with whom he is suspected to be in secret communication. The Sultan ought to bring pressure to bear on the *Sharif*, who has also of late been neglecting his work in connection with the Hedjaz Railway. The Editor concludes by expressing his surprise at the title of honour recently conferred upon the *Sharif* by the Sultan.

(b)—Home.

India and the British Government.

8. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 15th July 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that 32,000 troops having been sent from India to the field during the Transvaal War, a saving of one crore and nine lacs of rupees has been effected in the Indian Exchequer and the fact has been brought home to the public that the army maintained in India is considerably greater than her requirements. The writer, after observing that the war has terminated favourably for the Boers, goes on to say that if there is any class of people in India disloyal to the British throne they should give up all ideas of hostility, because the natives of India have not the courage to stand up against Great Britain, a Power that has vanquished a stubborn enemy who made every sacrifice for liberty. Besides, if any revolution were to break out in India, most influential people would array themselves on the side of the British, as was done during the Mutiny of 1857. The colonies are also ever ready to join hands with the British, and the European Powers would not fail to help the British against "black men" and "Indian savages." The writer concludes by urging the people of India to remain faithful to their Sovereign, seeing that their safety depends on the strength of the British Crown.

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th July 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the Raja of Suket, in order to win the good opinion of the new Commissioner, drew up a memorial purporting to be the spontaneous production of his subjects expressing their confidence in the Raja. This memorial was to be presented to the Commissioner on the occasion of his visit to Suket. To give the proceedings an appearance of being genuine, some 4,000 of the Raja's subjects were invited to Suket as guests a few days before the arrival of the Commissioner; and the Raja tried to cajole them into expressing to the Commissioner their entire satisfaction with their ruler. But they insisted that their grievances should be redressed. The Raja, however, had the memorial presented to the Commissioner, to whom the Raja's assembled subjects were also presented. Some of the Raja's agents who were placed in the last rows of the assemblage got up, and, pretending to be representatives of the people, assured the Commissioner that they were quite satisfied with their ruler.

10. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 24th July 1902 :—

The same.

"A correspondent writes from Suket: 'The Commissioner of the Jullundur Division visited Suket recently and was pleased with the management. About four thousand people flocked around and expressed their entire satisfaction as subjects of the present Raja. The Raja had, a day before the Commissioner's arrival, distributed alms freely to poor and had, together with his subjects, prayed for the speedy recovery of the Emperor. The Raja, though an able, educated and liberal ruler, is in great trouble on account of two or three enemies of the State, who have by their machinations prevailed over the Crown-Prince (Tika Sahib) to leave the parental roof for the *Mandi State*. I hope that the Commissioner will sift the matter thoroughly and punish the evil-doers.'"

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th July 1902, learns from a correspondent that Sardar Arur Singh while taking charge of his office discovered Rs. 119 in coins of various denominations and a piece of a gold weighing 9 tolas which were not entered in any of the Temple Registers. He adds that several valuable pieces of cloth belonging to the Toshakhana were missing and that the outgoing Manager was unable to offer any satisfactory explanation. He then goes on to say that Colonel Jowala Singh, in contravention of the directions contained in the Temple Manual about the Temple funds, was in the habit of advancing loans. It has been found from enquiry that Rs. 1,804, out of Rs. 3,096-5-0 lent out by Colonel Jowala Singh, still remain to be realised and that one of the bonds has become time-barred. The correspondent concludes by remarking that about 8 seers of gunpowder was discovered under a cart-load of firewood lying in the Toshakhana.

Complaints against Colonel Jowala Singh, late Manager of the Golden Temple, Amritsar.

12. Commenting on the above the Editor says there is no doubt that gunpowder was concealed with a view to set fire to the property in the Toshakhana.

The same.

13. The *Arya Musafar Magazine* of June 1902 observes in the course of a reply to Tasdiq Sadqa Jarya that the Vedic faith which produced legislators, and pious and learned men, and a sage like Swami Dya Nanda in the 19th Century, is now dying of the injuries inflicted upon it by the people of the West. The Vedas that taught valuable doctrines to mankind have fallen victims to the gibbering tongues of the followers of the Puranas, the hypocrisy of Christians and the ferocity of Muhammadans. The Editor reminds the Aryas how the founder of the *Samaj*, Swami Dya Nand, who girded up his loins to defend the *Samaj* against the attacks of the Muhammadans, met his death through the intrigues of a Muhammadan Doctor and the Hindus of the old school. In conclusion it is remarked that the salvation promised in Al Quran is nothing more than the gratification of brutal passions and that the pilgrimage to the *Kaba* and the regular walks round it are really tantamount to worshipping the place.

The Aryas and Muhammadans.

14. The *Arya Musafar* (*Magazine*) for May and June 1902, commenting on a letter addressed by Maulvi Sana Ulla to the Editor, says that it is foolish of the Maulvi to talk about the laws of nature of which he can know nothing so long as he believes in the Quran, which the writer proceeds to attack and to describe as a book that makes no distinction between cohabitation and unnatural crime, does not forbid the evil custom of *Muta* (temporary marriage), declares the eating of badgers, locusts, &c., lawful, forbids only the eating of the flesh of swine and blood, speaks of wine shops and brothels in heaven, and teaches that the sun disappears in a fountain of mud and is of equal dimensions with the moon, &c., &c.

The teachings of the Quran.

15. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th July 1902, repeats the charges published from time to time in its columns about the misconduct of the Mahants of the Amritsar District.

The Mahants of the Amritsar Districts.

16. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 24th June 1902, publishes a communication from one Syad Muhammad Sarwar in which the writer observes in the course of some remarks in support of the "Promised Messiah" of Qadian that in spite of overwhelming opposition from Muhammadans and Hindus of all sects the number of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's followers has risen to seventy thousand and is daily increasing. The writer adds that the prophecies made by the "Prophet" of Kadian have been fulfilled and that it is wonderful to see how an illiterate Punjabi has written several books in Arabic,

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

17. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1902, remarks, in reference to the surprise visit paid by the Divisional Judge to the Small Cause Court at Lahore, that the open enquiries made were not justifiable from an administrative point of view. It is said that the District Judge disapproved of the conduct of the legal practitioners, and it remains to be seen what the result of the enquiries will be.

The Small Cause Court, Lahore.

(b)—Police.

18. The *Police Advocate* of (Lahore), of the 11th July 1902, approves of the selection of Mr. Fraser as President of the Police Commission and suggests that a reasonable number of experienced Police Officers should be appointed to serve on the Commission, and that at least one member should be selected from among the educated native Police Officers of every province. He calls upon his readers to communicate to the paper every now and then any suggestions they may have to make to the Commission. The Editor observes in conclusion that the witnesses who will give evidence before the Commission will be inclined to paint only the dark side of the picture, being unaware of the responsibilities and onerous duties of Police Officers and the defects in the existing law and procedure,

The Police Commission.

The same.

19. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, makes similar remarks and says that all the members of the Commission are Europeans excepting two, who are natives of very high position, but who cannot have a thorough knowledge of the affairs of the country. The Editor adds that there is no representative of the Muhammadans on the Commission, and that if any official or non-official Muhammadan can be found worthy of being appointed a member, it does not seem right that the six crores Muhammadans in India should be unrepresented.

The same.

20. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 12th July 1902, makes similar remarks and observes that the chief defects existing in the Police administration are that constables draw very small salaries and sergeants of very low position are sometimes entrusted with the investigation of cases.

The same.

21. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th July 1902, after making similar remarks, observes that all credit is due to Lord Curzon for appointing to the commission men representing all departments.

A suggestion to increase the pay of Deputy Inspectors.

22. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, says that by increasing the salaries of Police constables alone, matters will not mend. The status of Deputy Inspectors ought to be raised by means of increasing their pay. The Editor then goes on to show that the promotion of Deputy Inspectors is very slow and that their present pay is quite inadequate considering the responsible nature of the work entrusted to them. He further points out that while other officials of equal rank with Deputy Inspectors are given travelling allowances, the latter get none whether their tour extends over a day or a year. He concludes by remarking that Deputy Inspectors being underpaid, cannot meet the expense of maintaining their position without having recourse to unfair means.

Mian Muhammad Hussain, Kotwal of Lahore.

23. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1902, says that the extension of one year's service granted to the local City Inspector, Mian Muhammad Hussain, in recognition of the good work done by him as Kotwal of Lahore, has been welcomed by the people in general, as the Inspector maintained his reputation and discharged his duties diligently.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Municipal elections at Amritsar.

24. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th July 1902, publishes a communication from Maulvi Sana Ulla of Amritsar, in which the writer alluding to a compromise effected between the candidates for the post of Municipal Commissioner at Amritsar, observes that private arrangements of this nature are calculated to nullify the benefits of self-government. It is no doubt beneficial to the members that contests should not take place among them, but it is not easy to understand why the Government should approve of such irregular proceedings. The writer concludes by saying that the best representatives can be had only when elections are held publicly.

25. The *Ahlisunnat Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th July 1902, after observing that the local Hindu candidates for the office of Municipal Commissioner have chosen Lala Gopal Das, Bhandari, and a few others as arbitrators to decide their claims, asks if the latter are authorised to do this. The Editor further wishes to know whether the voters' certificates, numbering between 1,000 and 1,500, lying under lock and key with the arbitrators, are genuine, and is of opinion that the truth would be revealed if fifty Hindu and fifty Muhammadan voters were summoned by the Deputy Commissioner without warning and asked what they had done with the voting certificates collected by them.

The same.

26. The same paper publishes some verses on the coming Municipal election at Amritsar, in which candidates are described as being seen hanging about the Municipal Secretary's bungalow, soliciting his support by means of presents and promises with a view to secure their election.

The same and Mr. Gardener, Municipal Secretary.

(d)—Education.

27. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th July 1902, commenting on the speech delivered by Mr. Thorburn, on "Education by newspapers" at a recent meeting of the East India Association, London, observes that the arguments advanced by the speaker in support of his plan for stemming the tide of discontent that is spreading over young India are ridiculous in the extreme, and that it is strange that such a proposal should have emanated from an enlightened man like Mr. Thorburn. It has been maintained by wise men of all ages that education and newspapers do immense good to a country, and it was after great deliberation that the Western system of education was introduced into India. It is true that some native newspapers are apt to take erroneous views of Government measures, but the chief reason for this is that Government officials do not furnish reliable news to any of the papers except a few Anglo-Indian semi-official organs. It is not the Press that has tended to make young India discontented with its lot. The real cause of dissatisfaction can be traced to the way in which Government appointments are filled as well as to the absence of technical education in the curriculum of the Universities. When educated men see unlettered persons raised to high posts which they are not fit to hold, their hearts burn with envy; and in these circumstances the best plan to remove such discontent is to provide suitable appointments for the educated and to introduce reforms in the system of education. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that Mr. Thorburn's scheme is not calculated to work successfully, and that although the native Press still stands in need of improvement, yet it is preposterous to accuse it of exciting discontent among the people.

Education by newspapers.

28. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th July 1902, says that notwithstanding that the Educational Code strictly prohibits subordinate schoolmasters inflicting corporal punishment, the orders are frequently violated. The Editor mentions two instances in which students reading in the local Central Model and Islamia High Schools were severely punished by assistant teachers.

A complaint regarding corporal punishment inflicted by assistant teachers.

29. The same paper of the 19th July 1902 publishes a communication from one Dost Muhammad, Clerk, Traffic Superintendent's Office, Lahore, in which the writer complains that his brother, a student of the local Technical School, was so severely caned on the hands that he is unable to write. He adds that one student of the school has run away to Amritsar and many more have absented themselves from fear of corporal punishment.

The same.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

30. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, referring to a note published in the *Tribune* of the 25th March last about the loss sustained by the booking-clerks at the Lahore Junction Station on account of the detection of bad coins in the Cash Office, observes that the clerks of all the stations on the North-Western Railway share the same fate. Formerly bad coins made of base metal could be easily detected, but now they are made of silver and are often so skilfully counterfeited as to defy detection by any one but an expert. This is a serious matter to poor clerks, who are required to make good the loss and who can ill afford it. The former Examiner of Accounts ordered that such coins as could not be detected without careful scrutiny should not be debited to stations; but the practice has been discontinued. In consequence of repeated representations by the clerks concerned, the counting was done for some time in the presence of Station Masters and clerks, but this arrangement is not expected to work satisfactorily. In view of the fact that the Railway traffic yields an income of about 1½ lacs a day and that only 45 rupees are daily pronounced bad, it is not unreasonable to ask the Railway Administration to bear such a trifling loss themselves. The Editor complains that rupees coined in 1840 are not accepted by the Railway, to the great inconvenience of the public. He concludes by observing that if gold coins were also counterfeited, the situation would become still worse.

A grievance of the booking-clerks, North-Western Railway.

31. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th July 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks about the Booking Office at the Batala Station (*vide* paragraph 23 of Selections No. 22), suggests that tickets should be sold at the Batala Station one hour before the train starts and that special facilities should be afforded to females for purchasing tickets. He adds that the two watermen at present employed at each station between Batala and Amritsar are wholly insufficient, especially during the hot weather.

A Railway complaint.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 31.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 2nd August 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st and 28th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	11,106	5	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	37	0	0
Total	...	* 11,143	5	11

* Rs. 9,143-9-6 have been remitted to Constantinople by three instalments.

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 18th July last ...		80	3	0
Syad Abdul Wahid, Deputy Collector, Amritsar		23	8	0
Through Syad Fatteh Ali Shah, Deputy Collector, Canal Department, Bhatinda ...		29	12	0
Total	...	133	7	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	6,453	1	10
Grand Total	...	6,586	8	10

(b)—Home.

3. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, remarks that the announcement that the expenses of the Indian guests in London in connection with the Coronation will be charged to India has given great offence to the people of this country. When the Colonial representatives now in England are being entertained at the expense of the British Nation, there seems no reason why the Indian representatives should not be accorded the same privilege, especially as the people of India have already given remarkable proofs of their loyality to the British Crown. The Editor then goes on to observe that neither His Majesty the King-Emperor nor His Excellency Lord Curzon seem to have been consulted in the matter; but that in spite of the invidious distinction made between the Indian and Colonial guests, the Natives of India, who gave presents worth 75 lacs of rupees to His Majesty on the occasion of his visit to India as Prince of Wales, will not grudge the expense to be incurred on the Delhi Coronation Darbar. The Editor concludes by saying that even influential Anglo-Indian papers like the *Pioneer* have condemned this shabby treatment of India, and it is to be hoped that Lord Curzon will urge on the Home authorities the importance of reconsidering their decision.

Expenses of the Indian guests in London.

4. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1902, after making similar remarks, suggests that the Indian guests should refuse to be entertained at the expense of the poor Indian tax-payer, especially because the cost of their entertainment will be insignificant as compared with the expenses of their voyage which they have paid from their own pockets. The guests being Rajas, Maharajas, Nawabs and Raises, their sense of self-respect will not allow them to accept any hospitality at the expense of their poor fellow-countrymen. The Editor then goes on to say that it will be interesting to note which of the guests takes the initiative in offering to pay the expenses of his entertainment himself. Such a person, concludes the Editor, will not only lay the whole of India under an obligation, but will transmit his name to posterity as a true patriot.

The same.

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* Lahore, of the 27th July 1902, observes that it makes no difference whether the expenses of Indian guests are paid by India or by England, because the Indian revenues also belong to the British Government and the people of India have no voice in controlling the expenditure of the revenues derived from them.

The same.

6. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1902, commenting on an article published in the *Akhbar-i-'Am* about the natives of India and the British Government (*vide* paragraph 8 of Selections No. 30), observes that it is preposterous to accuse a section of the Hindu community of disloyalty to the British Crown, seeing that they are enjoined to render implicit obedience to their rulers. It is for this reason that the Hindus respectfully represent

Natives of India and the British Government.

their grievances to Government in the hope of obtaining redress. That the Hindus are faithful and loyal to the British throne from the bottom of their heart is apparent from the fact that their representatives have gladly gone to England at considerable expense to take part in the Coronation festivities.

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th June (received on the 24th July) 1902, says that Mian Bahadur Singh, *Musahib* of the Tikka, has been sentenced by Raja Dusht Nikandan Sain to three months' rigorous imprisonment and to pay a fine of Rs. 100 on a charge of having accidently wounded a woman by firing a shot in the jungle. After adding that the case against the Mian has been revived after the lapse of a year simply to injure the feelings of the Tikka, the writer expresses a hope that the new Commissioner will enquire into the truth of the statement made by the plaintiff and the accused in this case by summoning them into his presence, and then decide the case himself.

A postal complaint.

8. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 20th July 1902, complains that at present the mails are despatched to Tavi (Jammu) only once every day, and that letters posted after 5 P.M. are detained till 7 P.M. of the following day. The Editor suggests that letter boxes should be cleared twice daily and the mails despatched to Tavi both by the morning and the evening train.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A complaint against the frequent postponement of the hearing of cases.

9. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th July 1902, publishes a protect against the frequent postponements made in civil cases, and says that some Magistrates take months to record the evidence in a case. The result is that ample time is afforded to the parties to tutor their witnesses. The Editor suggests that a special officer should be deputed to enquire into these irregularities.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

10. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th July 1902, after remarking that the members of the Police Commission are likely to render good service to the country, says that it behoves Lord Curzon to place on the Commission one or two men from among those who are known to be acquainted with the views of the middle classes.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

The Amritsar Municipal elections.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th June (received on the 24th July) 1902, referring to the coming Municipal elections at Amritsar, lays particular stress on the following points:—

(1) That the Secretary being a Municipal servant is precluded by Municipal bye-laws from taking any part in the election or helping any candidate in securing his return to the Committee.

(2) That the Municipal Commissioners who owe their election to the influence of the Secretary cannot be expected to exercise any control over him during their tenure of office.

(3) That the Secretary should not be permitted to keep voters' certificates in his charge.

(4) That the action of the Secretary in attending dinners given by candidates is not without significance.

A complaint against the Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

12. The same paper, noticing the dismissal of a certain Conservancy Darogha for embezzlement, remarks that while the Municipality is ready to punish its subordinate employés it takes no notice of the doings of the more highly-placed officials, specially when they happen to be white men. The Editor goes on to say that Dhanpat, Sub-overseer, who has succeeded Ghulam Mohai-ud-din, though a man of limited experience and ability, has acquired great influence through carrying favour with Mr. Gardener. He states that certain Municipal works,—the construction of a drain, quarters for the Octroi Muharrir, repairs to the Municipal Board School, cleaning out of the *Ganda Nala*, &c., were badly executed with indifferent material, while good work was paid for.

(e).—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Raja Ata-ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot.

13. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 20th July 1902, says that its note of the 4th instant (*vide* paragraph 23 of Selections No. 29) relating to the work of Raja Ata-ullah Khan, Revenue Officer, Sialkot, has borne fruit. Mr. Loxton, Officiating Deputy Commissioner, has, the Editor says, issued a *rubakar* requiring the Revenue Officers under him to hear cases during their tour on the dates fixed; and that in case they fail to reach the appointed place in time, a notice should be duly issued to the parties informing them of the change of date. The *rubakar* also cautions the officers against passing *ex parte* orders with undue haste.

The effects of discontinuing grants of land to horse-breeders.

14. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 25th July 1902, in its supplement, says that the action of the authorities in discontinuing grants of land on the Jhelum Canal for horse-breeding purposes has ruined many persons who had bought mares by mortgaging their land. The case of these people is a hard one and deserves to be favourably considered.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

The non-acceptance by Railways of rupees coined in 1840.

15. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1902, publishes a communication from a Signaller in which the writer, referring to the complaint regarding the refusal of Railway employés to accept rupees coined in 1840 (*vide* paragraph 20 of Selections No. 23), says that the real state of things has not been brought to the notice of the *Paisa Akhbar*. The Railway authorities make their employés pay for any "1840" rupees received by them, regardless of the fact that it is quite impossible for them to check the money received within the short time allowed for the sale of tickets.

16. Commenting on the above the Editor says that Booking Clerks cannot be blamed for refusing to accept rupees coined in 1840, and the complaints of the public are certainly not without good foundation.

The same.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

17. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes exception to Order No. 227, dated 2nd September 1901, of the Inspector-General of Civil Hospitals, Punjab, and remarks that this order is calculated to prejudicially affect the interests of Civil Hospital Assistants, especially those not possessing English qualifications. Besides reducing the rate of pay fixed for the Civil Branch, the said order will permanently stop the promotion of such Hospital Assistants as have not passed the English test. The above arrangement, adds the writer, has disappointed the expectations which those concerned were led to form from the resolution passed on the subject by the Government of India, according to which the first and the senior grade alone were reserved for candidates with English qualifications.

A complaint in connection with the promotion of Civil Hospital Assistants in the Punjab.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1902, is unable to agree with the *Tribune* that the action of the Maharajas of Gwalior, Jeypur, Bikaner and Kooch Behar in bowing low before H. R. H. the Prince of Wales was derogatory to their dignity and position, remarking that there is nothing unusual in this mode of expressing deference towards the heir-apparent, when even a Resident or an Agent can bring about the deposition of these dignitaries if he likes.

The reception of Native Chiefs by H. R. H. the Prince of Wales.

19. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur) of the 25th July 1902, remarks that as the coronation ceremonies are likely to come off on the 11th or 15th August, the Indian visitors in London will not be back for some time and will therefore have to obtain as much more money from India as they took with them. The Editor says that the visitors are enjoying the time in England and that the Hindu Rajas laid wreaths of flowers on the tomb of Her late Majesty, not because they were compelled to do so, but because they wanted to flatter the powers that be. Has a European servant of a Raja ever bowed his head before the idols Rama, Krishna, &c.? This in itself is a trifling matter, but it is these trifles which point to the conclusion that centuries must elapse before India can hope to have independent rule (*khudmkhtar hakumat.*)

Indian visitors in London.

20. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd July 1902, commenting on a note published in a Bulgarian paper about the oppression that is being practised on the Muhammadans of that principality, observes that the Indian people ought to be grateful to the British Government for treating non-Christians with toleration. Those who know of the treatment accorded by the

Oppression of the Muhammadans of Bulgaria.

Russian Government to the Muhammadans in Turkistan cannot doubt for a moment that the people of India have every reason to feel grateful to their British Rulers. Those Christians of Europe, concludes the Editor, who lose no opportunity of finding fault with Muhammadans for being intolerant towards the followers of other religions should feel ashamed of the treatment that is being accorded by Christians to the Muhammadans of Bulgaria.

India and its resources.

21. The *Ghamkhwar-i-'Alam* (Lahore), of the 20th July 1902, after remarking that India is an agricultural country, observes that with a view to preventing the recurrence of famine it is necessary (1) to stop the export trade of grain and (2) to take measures to increase the produce of land. The Editor says that the produce of land being in a great measure dependent on irrigation, it behoves Government to arrange for the construction of more canals in order to provide land-owners with better means of irrigation. The fact that ten *crores* of rupees were sanctioned in one year for the extension of railways, while only one *crore* was provided for canals, shows that Government does not pay sufficient attention to canals which are certain to prove a source of profit to the country.

The Boer prisoners at Amritsar.

22. The *Sadai-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1902, remarks that the Boer prisoners at Amritsar had begun, after the conclusion of peace, to visit the town and converse with the people, but that after a few days this was stopped. The Editor thinks that this action has been taken through fear lest the Boers should communicate their "secret" to the people, and concludes by saying that it is regrettable that after the way the loyalty of the people of India has been tested, Government and its officers should entertain any suspicions of them.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla.—7-8-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 32.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th August 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

Lord Curzon's rumoured elevation to the Cabinet.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st July 1902, remarks that a rumour is afloat that Lord Curzon will be elevated to a seat on the reconstruction of the Cabinet necessitated by the resignation of Lord Salisbury. If the rumour turns out to be true it will certainly be detrimental to the interests of India. During his short tenure of office Lord Curzon has proved himself to be a strong and able ruler. He has already succeeded in making his strong personality and powerful mind felt in every branch of the administration with the result that the tone of the administration has greatly improved. He has initiated several reforms which are, however, in their infancy and a ruler of his ability alone can bring them to a successful issue. Again, India's foreign relations are causing much anxiety. There is unrest on the frontier; while affairs in the Persian Gulf require to be carefully watched, and only a statesman of Lord Curzon's ability can be expected to rise equal to the occasion and to effectually grapple with these complicated problems. In these circumstances His Lordship's transfer to England would be extremely impolitic. It is, however, very unlikely that Lord Curzon will get a seat in the new Cabinet. His Lordship won his laurels in the Foreign Office, and it was as Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs that he made a name for himself. But the post of Foreign Minister is already occupied by Lord Lansdowne, whose tenure of office has been signalized by the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, now a *fait accompli*. Lord Curzon's elevation to the Foreign Office is therefore at present out of the question.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The same paper of the 28th July 1902 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	11,143	5	11
Mussammat Hyat Nur, through Amir Baz Khan of the Central Provinces ...	49	8	0
Small subscriptions	16	5	6
Total ...	*11,209	3	5

*Of this amount Rs. 9,142-9-3 have been remitted to Constantinople in three instalments.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 25th July	...	133	7	0
Small subscriptions	...	74	0	0
Total	...	207	7	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	6,660	8	10

III.—NATIVE STATES.

4. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July 1902, remarks that before the Commissioner's last visit to Suket the Raja collected his subjects and asked them to state before the Commissioner that they are quite satisfied with his administration. The latter, however, requested the Raja to recall the Heir-apparent and his relatives from exile. At this the Raja became exasperated, and Anokhu, Vaid, who was sitting beside His Highness, was going to address the assembly when the latter fell upon him. The Vaid thereupon fled into a house while the Raja ran away to his palace. Having failed in this attempt and seeing that the Commissioner's visit was drawing near, the Raja called Jaimal, Suba and others and gave them Rs. 1,000 or more and directed them to say before the Commissioner that the people were contented. In the meantime the Commissioner arrived and directed Panna Lal to produce some of the State subjects before him. Now Panna Lal is the person who wanted to become Wazir, but finding that Mr. Anderson was not disposed to support him he attacked the the latter in the columns of certain newspapers. This man produced the persons whom the Raja had bribed and they stated before the Commissioner what they had been told to. The Editor also says that it is alleged the Raja has applied (*sic*) for the expulsion of Mians Para Karam Singh, Janmejay and Titlu Ram from the State, and has urged that the Heir-apparent should be disinherited on the ground of his being demented and that the publication of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* should be stopped.

Suket affairs.

5. The same paper of the 1st August 1902 remarks that the Raja of Suket, seeing that Mr. Anderson has gone on leave and that on his return he will be posted to Lahore, is maligning him to his heart's content in the columns of the *Punjab Samachar*. It is stated in the *Punjab Samachar* that the Commissioner after inspecting the files in connection with Titlu Ram's case declined to interfere. As a matter of fact, Mr. Anderson took this step merely to maintain the Raja's prestige and not because there was no ground for interference. The Raja is, however, now giving out that finding the charges brought by him against Mr. Anderson to be true the Government has transferred Mr. Anderson from Jullundur. The Raja, the *Ahluwalia Gazette* says, should remember that such tactics when employed against a high officer like Mr. Anderson result in unpleasant consequences to their author. The Editor urges the appointment of

The same.

a Political Officer at Suket and the grant of a monthly allowance to the Raja for his private expenses. He would in the meantime like to know why the Raja has given thousands of rupees to Editors of certain newspapes who visited the State some time ago and what amount was spent in hushing up the cases (1) in which a Doctor killed an inmate of the Jail by bleeding him and (2) in which the Raja subjected another inmate of the Jail to gross oppression.

Kashmir affairs.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer makes the following complaints about the Kashmir administration :—

(1) The arrangements made by the late Ruler for supplying grain to the poor at cheap rates in times of scarcity have been discontinued, to the great disappointment of the people ;

(2) It is proposed to assess the lands lying on the borders of Srinagar which have hitherto been exempt from taxation of any kind ;

(3) & (4) Heavy taxes have been imposed on eatables and English companies are doing their best to monopolise the trade of the valley.

Nadwat-ul-Ulema.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 25th July 1902 publishes a communication from one Jamal Ahmad in which the writer observes with regret that his proposal to affiliate the Nadwa Session with the Muhammadan Educational Conference has failed to commend itself to the public. He goes on to say that the assembly is held in esteem by the public because they have declared (1) that they will not blindly follow old customs and (2) that they will put an end to all inter-religious disputes. The fact that the Nadwa has commenced work on the lines lately suggested by Sir Syad Ahmad shows that they have achieved the first thing aimed at by them. As regards the second object they have in view, the writer would suggest that it is useless making efforts to remove differences between Sunnis, Shias and Wahabis as this is a practically impossible task, and that politically it is of the first importance to bring about a union between the followers of the old and the new schools of thought—a division between whom is most detrimental to the interests of the Muhammadan community.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

A complaint against Colonel Jowala Singh, late Manager of the Amritsar Golden Temple.

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, publishes another complaint against the late Manager of the Golden Temple. It alleges that Colonel Jowala Singh while Manager applied for and received a grant of 20 squares of land on the Chenab Canal which was really given for the Darbar Sahib. The Colonel, however, succeeded in securing the land for himself and christened it "Colonel Gunj." When this fact was brought to the notice of the Deputy Commissioner the latter at once instituted enquiries, whereupon the Colonel made strenuous efforts to hush up the matter.

The Editor says he has secured copies of the Colonel's original application and orders recorded thereon and will submit them to the Deputy Commissioner in the hope that the matter will be sifted to the bottom.

Mahant Sant Das of Amritsar.

9. The same paper in its issues of the 24th July and 1st August 1902 publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that Mahant Sant Das, who has already been mentioned in the paper (*vide* paragraph 18 of Selections No. 25) keeps a mistress named Malan. The Mahant passes his days in debauchery and drunkenness in the *Ahluwalia Katra*, which is largely occupied by native gentlemen, and keeps in his service a number of Hindu and Muhammadan *gundas* to overawe his neighbours. Recently he paid a visit to the Tahsildar of Tarn Taran and showed him a copy of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* containing some remarks against him. It is not known what was the outcome of this visit, but the Mahant appears to have become emboldened. He openly says that he fears no one.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A vacancy among the Honorary Magistrates of Delhi.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st August 1902, says that a vacancy having occurred among the Honorary Magistrates owing to the death of Sheikh Hafiz Ullah, it seems necessary to urge on the Deputy Commissioner of Delhi the desirability of selecting some one from among the Punjabis for the post. The Editor adds that the Punjabis hold a prominent position in Delhi both as regards wealth and trade and the Government has already recognised their right to have a representative of their own on the bench. The Editor suggests that Sheikh Nur Ilahi, Municipal Commissioner, should be selected.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1902, after remarking that the members appointed to the Provincial Committee in connection with the Police Commission are men of exceptional ability, observes that the same omission has been made in the organisation of the Provincial Committee as characterised the constitution of the General Commission. The Editor says that although Mr. Clifford in a capable officer, yet, being a European, he cannot have a thorough insight into the views of the native public. If, however, Qazi Muhammad Aslam Khan, C. M. G., Sessions Judge, Jhelum, who has already held executive charge of several districts, were placed on the Provincial Committee, all complaints as to the entire absence of the Muhammadan element, &c., in the Commission would be removed.

The same.

12. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1902, commenting on the Resolution appointing the Police Commission, says that it must be plain to the meanest understanding that the inefficiency of the Police is due to their being badly paid and badly trained. After remarking that Police Constables earn much less than coolies and menials in Government Offices, the Editor urges the Government to raise their pay.

A complaint against the Police.

18. The same paper remarks that the most serious charge brought against the Police is that they beat and torture accused persons with a view to extort confessions, and there is no doubt that there is some truth in the allegation. This mode of extorting confessions is extremely objectionable, and many respectable Police officials have been sent to jail for resorting to it. In a case which recently occurred in the Gurdaspur District a Deputy Inspector, two Constables and a Sufedposh were chaláned for cruelly beating a suspected person. The Editor exhorts the Police to give up this habit.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

Municipal elections at Amritsar.

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July and 1st August 1902, remarks that the recent Municipal elections at Amritsar have on the whole given general satisfaction. It is gratifying to see that Lala Duni Chand, M.A., Vakil, has won a seat. But it is to be regretted that the traders of Amritsar are not represented. The most objectionable feature of the recent elections was that some of the candidates employed *gundas* and bad characters and adopted most objectionable tactics to secure votes. The Editor then goes on to say that Maulvi Abdulla would, if elected, have proved an acquisition to the Committee. The Maulvi intended to offer himself for election, but he was dissuaded from doing so. The two newly-appointed Muhammadan Commissioners are novices, and it is to be hoped that Government will see its way to nominating Maulvi Abdulla to the Committee. The Editor concludes by remarking that the contest was at first very keen and acrimonious, but that when some of the voters who used forged voting-papers were consigned to the lock-up the candidates for election made a compromise among themselves.

The same.

15. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July 1902, remarks that the tactics employed in the recent electioneering contest at Amritsar by certain candidates were most objectionable and discreditable. Votes were purchased for from five to seven rupees, *sherbet*, &c., was freely distributed among the voters, and bribes were given for the purpose of securing votes.

A complaint against Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

16. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, alleges that Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality, is in the habit of taking bribes. After stating that he took bribes from candidates for a post that recently fell vacant, the Editor cites the following cases in support of his contention :—

(1) On the retirement of Dr. Khair-ud-din two candidates applied for the post vacated by him. Mr. Gardener took Rs. 200 from one of the candidates ; but on the other candidate getting the appointment, he made the latter pay Rs. 200 to the former.

(2) He took 200 pictures of the Queen from Ghulam Muhammad, whom he appointed a Conservancy Darogha.

(3) He took Rs. 50 from the contractor of the cattle fair. The contractor made a profit amounting to about Rs. 3,000.

(4) The fact that he brought a contractor from Mooltan shows that he takes a share of the profits made by contractors.

(5) He took bribes from Muharrirs employed on work connected with the recent election.

(6) He also took bribes from a certain shop-keeper and permitted him to build a veranda before his shop in Division No. 6.

(7) He took a large sum of money from the owner of a plot of land outside the Ram Bagh Gate.

(8) He takes bribes through Tara Singh, Abdul Qadir, Bhagwan Singh, Hikmatulla, Muhammad Din, Harnam Singh, Dhanpat Rai and others.

The Editor urges the Government to call upon Mr. Gardener for an explanation and to prosecute him if he fails to furnish a satisfactory one.

A complaint in connection with the supply of pipe water at Lahore.

17. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that the Lahore Municipality now supplies water for about four hours instead of eleven hours a day, as was formerly the case, and this notwithstanding the fact that the water tax has been considerably enhanced.

A complaint against the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

18. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July 1902, remarks that the water of the wells at Amritsar has become filthy and impure and that it is high time steps were taken to purify them as the cholera season is rapidly approaching and the plague is knocking at the door of the city. The Editor urges the City Fathers to rouse themselves from their lethargy.

The same.

19. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, complains that a Clerk getting only Rs. 25 a month has been placed in charge of a godown where articles worth thousands of rupees are kept.

(d)—Education.

Contract for the printing of text-books.

20. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1902, remarks that now that new arrangements are about to be made for the printing of text-books, the authorities concerned should see that all books are neatly printed and offered for sale at reasonable rates. It is also desirable that coloured illustrations should be given in the text-books.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

A complaint against the Revenue Assistant, Sialkot.

21. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 29th July 1902, remarks that suits are sometimes irregularly dismissed in default, to the great inconvenience of litigants. As an instance in point the Editor states that the hearing of a certain suit was fixed for the 17th March last in the Court of the Revenue Assistant, Sialkot;

but that that officer being away on tour on the date of hearing, the plaintiff returned home disappointed from the Court at head-quarters. The suit was dismissed in default the following day and the application for its restoration to the file was granted, subject to payment of a substantial amount as damages to the defendant. The Editor, after observing that the plaintiff was made to suffer for no fault of his own, calls upon Government to institute inquiries into these irregular proceedings.

The same.

22. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 28th July 1902, reproduces the judgment of the Collector accepting the plaintiff's appeal, ordering restoration to the file of the above case, which is stated to have been pending in the Court of the Revenue Officer since December 1901, and remarking that no appeal could lie against the order awarding damages to the defendant, otherwise the Collector would have reversed that order also. The plaintiff has now been placed in a position to proceed with his case, and it is expected that the Revenue Officer will treat other litigants with more consideration in future as advised by the Collector.

The same.

23. The same paper urges that Government should fix the maximum amount which a Revenue, Judicial or Police Officer may draw as travelling allowance in a month or a year. It is desirable that the Travelling Allowance Bills submitted by officers of different districts should be compared with each other before fixing the maximum, and the Accountant-General as well as the Local Government should see that an officer tours in a district in the interests of public service and not with a view to swelling the amount of his travelling allowance. The Editor then calls upon Government to inspect the bills submitted by Khan Ata Ullah Khan, Revenue Assistant, Sialkot, and compare them with those submitted by his predecessors.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Refreshment rooms for native passengers at first class stations.

24. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st July 1902, after remarking that the food supplied to native passengers at Railway Stations is of a very unwholesome kind, says that the public should be thankful to Lord Curzon for directing that every first class station should have refreshment rooms for Hindus and Muhammadans, and adds that the success of the scheme will largely depend on the patronage which the native public extends to the proposed refreshment rooms.

(g)—Postal matters.

A postal complaint.

25. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 30th July 1902, publishes a communication from a correspondent at Peshawar in which the writer says that postmen have devised a new plan for making money. When delivering a small money order for Rs. 10 to a poor man, they pass one or two spurious coins, thinking that the recipient will not be able to detect the false rupees. The writer calls upon the Postal authorities to look into the matter.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

26. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1902, remarks that it has not afforded any pleasure to the Editor to learn that railway lines will be constructed by Government at Delhi in connection with the coming Coronation Darbar, because this measure is calculated to deprive the native proprietors of hackney carriages of all chance of making good profits on the occasion. The Editor has also been extremely disappointed to hear that the fireworks for the display at Delhi have been ordered from London in spite of the fact that British pyrotechnists cannot hold their own against natives of India in this branch of manufacture. He concludes by saying that it is a matter for surprise that lacs of rupees were spent on statutes ordered from England to commemorate the Golden and Diamond Jubilees of Her late Majesty and that people of India could not hit upon some expedient to benefit their own countrymen on those occasions.

The coming Delhi Darbar.

27. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, after making similar remarks, observes with regret that the expenses of the Indian guests in London in connection with the Coronation will be charged to India.

The same.

28. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore) of the 30th July 1902, suggests that among the prisoners to be released on the auspicious occasion of the Coronation, two Editors of newspapers, namely, Babu Amba Pershad and Mirza Abdulla, convicted at Muradabad and Cawnpore respectively, should be released, as they have already undergone sufficient imprisonment. The Editor calls upon his contemporaries to urge on Government the desirability of remitting, as an act of mercy, the unexpired portion of the sentences passed on these unfortunate men.

A suggestion to release two convicted Editors of newspapers on the occasion of the Coronation.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press Simla—12-8-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 33.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 16th August 1902.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, remarks that the Sultan of Turkey has ordered the construction of Railway lines between Jedda, Mecca, and Medina to be taken in hand at once, a fact which proves that the Sultan evinces great solicitude for the comfort of pilgrims from India. The Natives of India can never be sufficiently grateful for this favour, and it is their duty to do their best to render every possible pecuniary help. The Editor observes with regret that the Muhammadans of India have not contributed liberally towards the Hedjaz Fund and that the wealthy among them have refrained from supporting the movement on one pretence or another. As regards the proposed Commission for collecting subscriptions on the occasion of the Delhi Coronation Darbar, the Editor suggests that steps should be taken without delay to select delegates from among the well-to-do and influential supporters of the cause and that the names of these men should be published early in October, at the latest, so that the public may have sufficient time to suggest any necessary additions. A programme should also be published beforehand and appeals should be made to Rulers of States. The Commission is sure of success if they will only take the trouble to do things systematically.

The same.

2. The same paper remarks that the Constantinople papers state some 400 miles of the Hedjaz Railway have been constructed. The Editor feels confident that if efforts continue to be made pilgrims will travel a considerable distance by rail next pilgrimage.

The same.

3. The same paper praises one Shekh Muhammad Sultan, Supervisor, Military Works, Colaba, Bombay, who collected Rs. 1,025 in a few days and contributed Rs. 778 from his own pocket. The Editor say that an enormous sum could be collected from the wealthy Muhammadans of the Bombay Presidency if influential people would take the matter in hand.

4. The same paper is glad to inform its readers that Munshi Ghulam Jilani, Munsif, and Khan Bahadur Munshi Ghulam Farid, Honorary Magistrate, Batala, have collected Rs. 567 during the last week for the Hedjaz Railway Fund, contributing Rs. 100 and Rs. 255 respectively from their own pockets.

The same.

5. The same paper of the 1st, 4th and 8th August 1902 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

				Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...			...	11,209	3	5
(1) Through Munshi Ghulam Jilani, Munsif, Batala, as per detail below—						
	Rs.	A.	P.			
Mian Ghulam Farid, Honorary Magistrate, Batala ...	255	0	0			
Munshi Ghulam Jilani, Munsif	100	0	0			
Dr. Ghulam Nabi ...	50	0	0			
Small subscriptions ...	162	2	0			
				576	2	0
(2) Other small subscriptions ...			...	87	3	0
Total ...				*11,863	8	5

* Of this amount Rs. 9,142-9-6 have been remitted to Constantinople.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

				Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 1st August 1902 ...				207	7	0
Through Munshi Farid-ud-din, Roudli, Bara Banki, Oudh ...	...	...	...	218	0	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	...	...	55	0	0
Total ...				480	11	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...				6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL ...				6,933	12	10

(o)—Home.

7. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 8th August 1902, remarks that native Rajas who have been invited to take part in the Coronation ceremonies are under the delusion that the British Government will bear all the expenses in

The expenses of the Native Chiefs attending the Coronation.

connection with their visit. They should understand that in the end India will be called upon to bear the entire burden. In other words, the Maharajas of Gwalior, Scindia, and other native Rajas will enjoy a trip to England at the expense of the poor Indian tax-payer.

The Coronation and the Delhi Darbar.

8. The same paper remarks that His Majesty having recovered, the Coronation has been fixed to take place on the 9th August. But owing to the European Princes and representatives having all departed from England, the ceremony is not likely to be as impressive and grand as it would have been if performed on the date originally fixed. It is, however, said that the Delhi Darbar will surpass it in pomp and splendour. This, adds the Editor, is quite probable inasmuch as the authorities here have unlimited power in the matter of expenditure.

British rule in India.

9. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer in the course of some remarks about the blessings of British rule in India, urges his countrymen to offer hearty prayers to the Almighty for the long life of the King-Emperor.

The same.

10. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 8th August 1902, after enumerating the blessings which British rule has conferred on India, urges the people to be loyal to King Edward VII: he has promised to tread in the footsteps of his illustrious mother, who always evinced great sympathy for the people of this country.

This paper also remarks that some people are abusing the privilege of the liberty of the press by bringing the Government into contempt by their scurrilous writings. The duty of the press is to respectfully draw the attention of Government to the wants of the people and to point out defects in the administration. In doing so they should always remember that in a vast country like India, inhabited by communities whose interests are the reverse of identical, reforms can only be introduced gradually and after due deliberation. The British Government have always the well-being of the people at heart and want to ultimately raise India to the status of a self-governing country. It is for this reason that the boon of Local Self-Government and the right of electing members for the local Councils have been conferred on the people.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Anglo-Indian papers and the new Amir.

11. The *Sat Dharm Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 8th August 1902, is surprised to find that the Anglo-Indian papers should be so much exercised over the action of the new Amir in taking steps to raise the efficiency of his army and conferring khillats on Mullas who are supposed to be enemies of the British Government. The Editor remarks that there is nothing extraordinary in the action of the Amir, seeing that he is taking these steps merely to preserve the integrity of Afghanistan, which is threatened on one side by England and on the other by Russia.

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

12. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, states that the Editor of the *Hamdard-i-Hind*, who has for some time have past been advocating the cause of the Raja of Suket, lately went to Suket and visited the Raja several times at night. After remarking that Raja Dusht Nikandan Sain grossly oppressed his relatives and subjects, who fled from the State, the Editor goes on to say that recently the Raja applied for a Police force in order to suppress a rising in which 6,000 of his subjects were concerned. This fact shows that the people of Suket are not contented with their ruler.

The paper also remarks that it is pleasing to note that through the intercession of Government the Raja has been obliged to restore to Mian Nain Singh the property which he had confiscated. After urging that steps should be taken to make good the loss which Mian Nain Singh suffered in consequence of the confiscation, the Editor ridicules the *Hamdard-i-Hind's* allegations that the troubles of the State are due to certain mischievous and turbulent persons. It should be remembered, he adds, that only four persons stated before the Commissioner that the people were happy and contented and that they did so because they were given bribes amounting to Rs. 1,000. If the *Hamdard-i-Hind* really believes that there are some mischievous people breeding discontent it should boldly come forward and publish their names.

Bahawalpur affairs.

13. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, after remarking that six-sevenths of the Bahawalpur population consists of Muhammadans, adds that the Nawab was not well advised in making the remarks he did about the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in State service. The Editor, however, cannot agree with those papers which are giving out that His Highness is influenced by religious and racial prejudices, and that he intends passing stringent measures against the Hindus. The worst that could be said against him would be that he is rather too outspoken and candid for a Ruling Chief, this being due partly to his youth and inexperience of Statecraft. But it must be admitted on all hands that he is taking a very keen interest in the State, and that his energy has infused a new spirit into the whole administration. Referring to the Nawab's diary, the Editor remarks that a good deal of it relates to matters which should more appropriately be dealt with by subordinate officials. After pointing out that more attention should be paid to principles rather than to details, he approvingly quotes His Highness' remarks about the codification of the laws in force in the State.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian.

14. The *Dehati Gazette* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1902, after ridiculing Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian for referring every earthly dispute to the arbitration of a heavenly tribunal, reprints an article from the *Sada-i-Bashir*, a Christian newspaper published at Ludhiana, in which it is stated that all the seven signs by which, according to Muhammadan traditions, the Anti-Christ will be distinguished, are to be found in the Mirza.

15. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, remarks that the appointment of Munshi Sant Ram *vice* Munshi Bhola Singh is regarded with great dissatisfaction by the public. This man formerly held the very post to which he has now been appointed; but in 1896 he was forced to resign by Sardar Arur Singh himself in consequence of certain charges brought against him by the *Ahluwalia Gazette*. His re-appointment by Sardar Arur Singh has, therefore, caused much surprise to the public. After remarking that he will expose the Munshi before the Deputy Commissioner, the Editor goes on to say that Sardar Arur Singh's conduct in examining the account books of the Golden Temple at his own house and with the help of Munshi Sant Ram and one Chanda Singh has laid him open to a good deal of adverse comment. Has the Sardar made any enquiries about those items which were misappropriated by Colonel Jowala Singh and which were never shown in the account books? Has any enquiry been made into certain allegations preferred against the late Manager by Bhai Jai Ram Singh, Accountant, in a memorial which he submitted to the authorities?

Golden Temple affairs

16. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that rumour has it that on a complaint made by some person the Deputy Commissioner of Amritsar has called for papers and is considering the advisability of deposing Mahant Sant Das from his *gaddi*. After remarking that he will show later on how the Temple funds are being squandered by the Mahant in drunkenness and debauchery, the writer goes on to say that the Mahant has some friends in the District Office who keep him informed of what is going on concerning him in the District Court.

Misuse of religious endowments at Amritsar.

17. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, reproduces the substance of an order passed by the Bombay High Court quashing the sentence of imprisonment and fine passed against one Govind Mokandia, caste *Mohar*, by a Subordinate Court, for polluting a fountain, used by persons of high caste, by drinking water from the same. The Editor says that the *Nur Afshan* has approved of the order; but he cannot help remarking that every country has its peculiar customs, and that it would be very unsafe and impolitic to force upon a people teachings that are opposed to their customs and habits. He adds that the order quoted above would have a pernicious effect if people were to use it as a precedent for taking water by force from the wells, &c., belonging to men of different castes.

A caste question.

18. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, says that Government having sanctioned the sum of sixty thousand rupees for the construction of new offices for the North-Western Railway, the mosque hitherto used as a Railway Office at Lahore will be made over to the Muhammadans. The Editor says that His Excellency Lord Curzon has laid the Muhammadans of the Punjab under a deep debt of gratitude by this act of kindness.

Relinquishment of a mosque at Lahore by Government.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A complaint against a European Canal Officer.

19. A supplement to the *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 8th August 1902, remarks that a case of grievous hurt is pending against a European Canal Officer in the Court of the District Magistrate. The facts of the case are that the servants of the officer accused demanded *rasad* from an Overseer who declined to supply the same, saying that he had not been paid on a previous occasion. Upon this the officer became angry and administered a severe beating to the Overseer and two chaprasis. The accused are bound over to appear in Court.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

20. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that reforms are as badly needed in the superior as in the inferior ranks of the Police Department. As the members of the latter who are in a position to give valuable hints are prohibited from making any written or verbal statements before the Commission, it is necessary that they should be permitted to submit their suggestions to the Provincial Committees either verbally or in writing.

Police Constables and their salaries.

21. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1902, in the course of a long article endeavours to prove that the Police Constable is not merely about the lowest-paid Government servant, but that his emoluments do not compare favourably even with the wages of private servants and labourers. The Editor adds that while his brethren in the army start on Rs. 9 a month, rising in due course to Rs. 12, the Constable begins on only Rs. 7 a month. Moreover, soldiers on active duty are allowed free rations, while a Policemen even when engaged in most hazardous tasks, such as apprehending *dakaits*, is allowed neither travelling allowance nor rations.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

A complaint against Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

22. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, remarks that although the attention of the Amritsar Municipality has been drawn in a series of articles to the malpractices of Mr. Gardener, nothing has so far been done to put a stop to them. As a result of this indifference on the part of the Committee, Mr. Gardener has been emboldened and demands bribes openly. As an instance in point the Editor states that a Native Christian who was recently appointed Naib Inspector of Conservancy, has been dismissed merely because he declined to give bribes. The man has appealed to the Deputy Commissioner, who has called for the papers. The Editor concludes by urging Government to interfere and set matters right, and calls upon the so-called independent members to make thorough enquiries into the matter.

23. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, remarks that complaints are rife against Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Municipality, Amritsar, but that strangely enough the services of Mr. E. M. Nicholl have been dispensed with regardless of the excellent services of the latter's father. The Editor adds that young Mr. Nicholl was, before his employment by the Municipality, induced to resign service in a Department where he had good prospects of promotion, &c.

Amritsar Municipal affairs.

24. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th August 1902, reproduces an article from the *Nasim-i-Agra*, in which that paper urges the advisability of prohibiting Cantonment Magistrates from hearing suits instituted by them in the capacity of Secretaries to Cantonment Committees.

Hearing of suits by Cantonment Magistrates.

25. The same paper complains that Colonel Robarts, Cantonment Magistrate, Sialkot, is in the habit of issuing notices to house proprietors to the effect that their houses are in a dangerous condition and that they should be reconstructed, so as to satisfy their tenants or the medical authorities. The Editor urges that before issuing such notices Colonel Robarts should summon the house-proprietors, hear their objections and satisfy himself as to the correctness of the complaints made about the condition of the houses.

A complaint against Colonel Robarts, Cantonment Magistrate, Sialkot.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

26. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st August 1902, after remarking that the Punjab Land Alienation Act has proved a source of benefit to the agricultural classes of the Province, considers it necessary to point out to the *zamindars* that the Act in question has been given effect to in certain districts of the Punjab on trial for a fixed period and that money-lenders are making strenuous efforts to convince Government that the Act is prejudicial to the interests of the *zamindars*, who are no longer able to borrow money to pay Government revenue. The Editor urges *zamindars* to pay the Government demands without delay, so as to render it impossible for the money-lenders to deceive the authorities into the belief that the act is calculated to injure the very class for whose benefit it is intended.

The Punjab Land Alienation Act.

(g)—Postal matters.

27. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th August 1902, remarks that a correspondent calls attention to the fact that out of 125 Superintendents of Post Offices in India, 78 are Europeans, 35 Hindus, 8 Parsis and 4 Muhammadans. It is strange that the number of natives is not even one-half that of Europeans; but the most objectionable feature of the arrangement is the inequitable distribution of posts among the various native castes. One would have thought that the number of Muhammadans would be at least one-third that of the Hindus, but as a matter of fact it is smaller even than that of the Parsis. There are altogether 8 Parsis representing a community which does not

Paucity in the number of Muhammadans in the higher postal service.

number more than 30 to 32 lakhs of souls, but the Muhammadans, who form nearly one-third of the entire population of India, are represented by half the number of the Parsis. The Editor concludes by expressing the hope that the Director-General of the Post Office of India will see that his patronage is fairly distributed among the various native castes.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Plague Inoculation Scheme.

28. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th August 1902, while approving of the action of Government in taking energetic measures to combat the plague in anticipation of a recrudescence of the epidemic next winter, remarks that it is absolutely necessary to make provision for female inoculators. It is not correct to say that women of all classes will permit themselves to be inoculated by men. Even if it were a fact that the women of the Nawashahr and Garhshankar Tahsils presented themselves for inoculation to male doctors, it does not follow that the women of all the districts of the Punjab will submit to the operation at the hands of men.

The same.

29. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th August 1902, after making similar remarks, observes that it is advisable to select priests and representative men of communities instead of Assistant and Extra Assistant Commissioners to bring home to the people the advantages of inoculation. The Editor takes exception to the action of Government in declaring that as few natives will be employed as possible and none of a grade below that of Assistant Surgeon. When native compounders, chaprasis, *khalasis*, &c., have not been excluded, there is no reason why the services of Hospital Assistants should not be utilised under efficient supervision, so as to preclude the necessity of getting extra medical practitioners from England. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that with a view to prevent disturbances, a Magistrate should be deputed to accompany every inoculating party.

The same.

30. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th August 1902, remarks that it is an admitted fact that inoculation is the best preventive against plague, and that it is for this reason that the Local Government has solicited sanction from the Government of India for wholesale inoculation in view of a probable recrudescence of the disease during the approaching cold weather. It is true that inoculation does not confer immunity on all who undergo the operation, but experience has shown that it greatly diminishes the mortality from plague. This being the case, it behoves all persons to induce their friends and relatives to undergo inoculation and thus support the Government in their campaign against this terrible scourge.

The same.

31. The *Ghamkhwar-i-'Alam* (Lahore), of the 3rd August 1902, also publishes an article to the same effect.

The same.

32. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 5th August 1902, approves of the measures proposed by the Punjab Government to combat the plague and calls upon the leaders of the various communities to afford every facility to inoculators in performing their duties so as to ensure the success of the scheme.

33. The *Siraj-ul Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 4th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that the fever epidemic has surpassed the plague itself and is causing terrible mortality in Wazirabad.

Fever epidemic in Wazirabad.

34. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, reprints an article from the *Risala Kapas-Tajarat*, in which the writer, after praising Lord Curzon for supplying a long-felt want in ordering the establishment of a commercial bureau, remarks that this institution should be organised exactly on the model of that existing in America. It is of great importance to the people of India to know where Indian products are consumed and what steps should be taken to secure markets for Indian articles.

Establishment of a commercial bureau in India.

35. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 7th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that in improving the prospects of Hospital Assistants an invidious distinction has been made between Military men and Civilians, for, while the maximum pay to which the former can aspire is fixed at Rs. 100, the latter must be content with Rs. 70. The writer says that Civil Hospital Assistants should be placed on a footing of eqality with Military Hospital Assistants inasmuch as the former are called upon to attend to medico-legal cases and to undertake other responsible and onerous duties. He concludes by calling upon the Civil Hospital Assistants in each Province to submit memorials to their respective Governments for the betterment of their prospects.

Civil and Military Hospital Assistants.

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FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 23rd August 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 34.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 23rd August 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th and 15th August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	11,863	8	8
Sardar Muhammad Jabir Khan, Quetta, Baluchistan	50	0	0
Small subscriptions	43	0	0
Total ...	*11,956	8	5

* Rs. 9,182-9-6 remitted to Turkey.

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 18th August ...	480	11	0
(1) Munshi Niaz Ahmad, Rais of Khairabad, Sitapore, Oudh	1,510	0	0
(2) Small subscriptions	36	9	4
Total ...	2,027	4	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	6,453	1	10
Grand Total ...	8,480	6	2

3. One Said-ud-din, Mukhtar, and Assistant Secretary to the Hedjaz Railway Fund Committee, Delhi, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 16th August 1902, says that Rs. 1,250 have been remitted to Turkey, through the National Bank, and efforts are being made to collect more subscriptions for the fund.

The same.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th August 1902, remarks that Lucas Meyer, a Boer General, has met with quite an ovation in London. The fact is that the Boers have displayed such persevering gallantry and endurance that even their antagonists cannot help admiring them. It was with a view to please the Boers, concludes the Editor, that the same protection was extended to their graves as was afforded to those of the British soldiers that died in the field; otherwise Lord Kitchenner was not the man to be moved by any feelings of compassion, for it was he who caused the bones of the Mahdi to be disinterred and thrown into the Nile.

A Boer General in London.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes the *Ahluwalia Gazette* to task for publishing a series of articles, apparently from the pen of Mian Janmejay, calculated to bring the Raja and his administration into contempt, and remarks that in a recent issue of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* it has been alleged (1) that the Raja depleted his treasury by spending an immense amount of money on mere show on the occasion of the King-Emperor's Coronation; (2) that he sent for his subjects and induced them through Ganga Das, Damodar and Jaimal, to put their signatures to a *razinama* which was submitted to the Commissioner when the latter paid a visit to Suket, and (3) that although the Raja solemnly promised to act according to the rules laid down by a Committee appointed by the Government in 1891, he has paid no heed to these rules. These allegations, observes the writer, are entirely unfounded. Grand preparations were undoubtedly made on the occasion of the King-Emperor's Coronation, but they had to be abandoned owing to the King's sudden illness, when the Raja distributed alms to the poor. It must be conceded that this was a necessary item of expenditure. After remarking that the second allegation is entirely wrong because the Raja's subjects submitted the petition in question of their own accord, the writer remarks that the third allegation shows that Mian Janmejay is anxious to secure the restoration of his confiscated property. The writer promises to show later on under what circumstances the Mian's property was confiscated, and concludes by saying that the allegation that the Raja requested the Commissioner to disinherit the Tika is also wrong.

Suket affairs.

6. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 9th August 1902, publishes a communication from one Abdul Qadas of Saharanpore, in which the writer are, after taking the Editor to task for his note on the Bahawalpur State (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 33), says that it is a great merit in a Chief to be candid, and that the remarks made by His Highness regarding the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the State service were not only justified, but urgently called

Bahawalpur affairs.

fer. Referring to the Nawab's diary, the correspondent adds that entries referring to robberies, &c., are not made public as such a step would facilitate the escape of the culprits. He concludes by eulogising the Nawab for attending to details, and ridicules the Editor for advising His Highness to leave small matters alone.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Nadwat-ul-Ulama.

7. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th August 1902, publishes a communication from one Mumtaz Ali of Jodhpur in which the writer, after pointing out the advantages of union, exhorts the Muhammadans of the Punjab to unite and have the Nadwat Assemblage affiliated with the Muhammadan Educational Conference. Such a union, adds the writer, would promote the interests of the community; and the British Nation, who profess a religion very much akin to that of the Muhammadans, would lend the latter a helping hand.

The Vedas and the Quran.

8. The *Anwar-ul-Islam* (Sialkot), of the 1st August 1902, compares the Vedas unfavourably with the Quran. The former, it is said, teach Polytheism while the Quran inculcates the Unity of God.

Christianity.

9. The same paper publishes a lengthy article by one Allah Din of Lahore in unfavourable criticism of the Christian religion, in which the writer endeavours to point out various inconsistencies, &c., &c.

Obscene lectures in a Samaj.

10. The *Sanatan Dharm Gazette* (Lahore), for July 1902, remarks that since the 15th April last obscene lectures calculated to injure the feelings of the followers of other religions are being delivered in the Arya Samaj at Noah in the Gurgaon District. As an instance, the Gazette states that one of the lecturers in the course of his remarks said that *Pujaris* are in the habit of having illicit intercourse with the daughters of *banias* who frequent the temples; that the *Pujaris* teach women the ways of cohabitation in the temples of Kashi and that taking a bath in the *Pushkar* is tantamount to having sexual intercourse with a woman, &c. Moreover the Hindus were called infidels and the Brahmans challenged to enter into a religious controversy with the lecturer.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A complaint against a Munsif.

11. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 13th August 1902, endorses the opinion of the *Mashir-i-Hind* that Syad Abbas Ali, Munsif, being a resident of Lahore, should not be allowed to serve there any longer. The Editor adds that the Munsif is an old man of over 55 and should be retired to save him the trouble of moving from one place to another (!)

The Small Cause Court, Lahore.

12. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, says that it has now been found that the complaints which were some time ago published in the local Muhammadan papers against Lala Aya Ram, B. A., Judge of the Small

Cause Court, Lahore, emanated from certain mischievous members of the Court *amla*. These persons at first tried to take advantage of the Judge's simplicity; but being unsuccessful, they proceeded to attack him in the columns of certain Muhammadan papers. Now that the Divisional Judge has paid a visit to the Small Cause Court, it is expected that many ugly facts will be brought to light. Will Government, asks the Editor, enquire who put pins on the Judge's chair to annoy him?

Major Wyllie, Cantonment Magistrate, Meean Meer.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 13th August 1902, is gratified to learn that Major Wyllie, Cantonment Magistrate, Meean Meer, has endeared himself to the people by his even-handed justice and impartial treatment of Native and European litigants. Conservancy and octroi affairs are properly looked after, and there is every reason to hope that many improvements will be effected at Meean Meer under Major Wyllie, provided he is allowed to remain there long enough.

(b)—Police.

Corruption in the Police.

14. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 12th August 1902, is afraid that even the high scale of salaries proposed for the Police will not produce the desired result, as it is by no means an easy thing for a corrupt officer to shake off a habit after it has become part of his nature. Deputy Inspectors and Sergeants, though getting fairly good salaries, are not entirely free from the taint of corruption. The Editor would therefore suggest that the doings of Police officials should be more closely watched and the culprits severely punished.

The Police Commission.

15. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th August 1902, suggests that the writing of confidential diaries by the Police should be specially dealt with by the Police Commission, and that steps should be taken to bring to account those officials who submit false reports.

The Editor says that the result of the labours of this Commission will be to make the Police Department more useful to the people; and he praises Government for the interest they take in the welfare of the people.

In its issue of the 13th August this paper suggests that if enquiries were made in each Province as to the value of property acquired by Police subordinates and this compared with the pay they had drawn, some startling facts would come to light.

It is also suggested that some experienced native officials and *Raises* should be appointed to help the Commission.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

16. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th and the 15th August 1902, remarks that Lord Curzon has done immense good to the country in organizing the Universities Commission for the purpose of introducing reforms to prevent public

money being wasted. His Excellency announced at a meeting of the Educational Conference at Simla that Government was desirous of imparting sound education to the people of India, and not of "cramming" them, an idea which was first enunciated by Sir Syad Ahmad. If, however, as suggested by the Commission, second grade colleges are to be closed, both the Hindus and the Muhammadans will be sure to suffer, the latter more especially because those Anjumans which educate poor Muhammadan students in private institutions will not be able to afford to educate them in Government Colleges. There being different institutions for the rich and the poor in England, there is no reason why the same should not be the case in India. The Punjab, which in point of education is the most backward Province in the country, will fare worse if the suggestion in question is carried into effect. The Editor then goes on to say that this recommendation is diametrically opposed to the principle followed by Government since 1854, namely, that private enterprise in the matter of education should be encouraged. The remedies proposed by Dr. Bannerji in his Minute of Dissent for removing the evils of the existing system of education in India are calculated to bring about the results aimed at by His Excellency. The second grade colleges should be allowed to stand as they are, otherwise education will be placed beyond the reach of the middle classes, to say nothing of the poorer classes.

The same.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 11th August 1902, takes exception to the proposal for fixing a uniform rate of fees for all Indian Colleges. The paper is also opposed to the scheme for raising the existing rate of college fees, as such a course would place education beyond the reach of poor students. A hope is expressed therefore that the question of fees will not be decided without full consideration.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the zamindars.

18. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 9th August 1902, publishes a communication from Mirza Sultan Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 20 of Selections No. 17), says that those who attribute the poverty of the zamindars to over-assessment or indifference on the part of Government have failed to understand the question. It is true that the agriculturists are poor, but so far no diagnosis has been made of their disease. According to the correspondent, their poverty is mostly due to litigation to which the people are so prone. If they could be persuded to get their cases decided by *Panchayats*, it would materially improve their condition. In case the above suggestion should be found impracticable, then either the Courts should be given special powers to decide suits relating to land with the consent of the zamindars, or Revenue Officers should be directed to summarily deal with such cases on the spot, during their tours. The correspondent concludes by pointing out that zamindars do not take sufficient pains to guard their interests and are not proof against the temptation of running into debt.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

19. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd August 1902, remarks that the plague is knocking at the door of Lahore and that every possible step should be taken to keep it out. The Deputy Commissioner has no doubt appointed Ward Committees, but they are quite insufficient in a big city like Lahore. The number of these Committees should, therefore, be increased, and Hakims and Vaids should be directed to co-operate in reporting at once any suspicious cases occuring in their respective *ilaqas*. Educated people should also be directed to keep an eye on the conservancy arrangements in their neighbourhood and to report deaths occurring among rats. It is said that Conservancy Jamadars, &c., have been ordered to report deaths among rats, but this is not enough. The Municipal Commissioners should also be directed to see to this matter.

The same.

20. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th August 1902, after referring to the Plague Circular issued by the Government of the United Provinces requiring Police Officers to report plague cases and arrivals from infected areas to Tahsildars, says that the above arrangement is very satisfactory, seeing that, as a rule, the Police are cordially disliked, and the annoyance which people experience at their hands is by no means less feared than the plague itself. The Editor concludes by remarking that the Police owe their unpopularity to certain self-seeking individuals who bring disgrace on the whole Department by their ill-advised conduct.

The same.

21. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th August 1902, also makes similar remarks.

The Punjab Plague Inoculation scheme

22. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 16th August 1902, takes exception to the action of Government in not providing female inoculators for the Punjab. The Editor adds that it is incredible that the women of two *tahsils* in the Punjab should have got themselves inoculated by male doctors, and remarks that the women of the whole Province will prefer death to getting themselves inoculated by men.

The Coronation.

23. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), the *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), the *Taraqi* (Lahore), the *Taj-ul-Akhbar* Rawalpindi), the *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), the *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), the *Sanatan Dharm Gazette* (Lahore), the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), the *Saqa-i-Hind* (Lahore), and the *Lahore Punch* (Lahore) publish accounts of local rejoicings on Coronation Day.

The same.

24. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 15th August 1902, dwelling on the "transitory nature of things worldly", says that even the stamps which served to remind one of the late Queen Victoria have been replaced by new ones bearing the head of King Edward VII. The Editor states that the people of some place in England, being enraged at the postponement of the Coronation,

broke out into rioting; and he says that if a thing of the kind had occurred in India a punitive Police force would have been quartered in the locality and the rioters banished to the Andamans. He adds that while the English will not suffer others even to frown at their King, they will allow their own countrymen to dishonour His Majesty with impunity.

The preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal Circle.

25. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that the Office of the Delhi Division of the Western Jumna Canal is almost entirely manned by Hindus, some of whom have been attached to the Circle for a considerable time. The evil consequences which invariably follow when the public service is monopolised by one section of the community manifested themselves in the present case. Some time back one Rahmanullah, *Pansal-navis*, was dismissed, and a private servant of Pandit Bakhtawar Singh, Deputy Collector, was taken on in his place. The writer further alleges that there was only one Muhammadan Munshi in the four sub-divisions, and he too has been relegated to the *Muhafiz-khana*, where he will no longer be allowed to draw any travelling allowance. In this connection the writer also wishes to draw attention to the case of Hira Lal, who, although almost blind, is permitted to hold his post through the favour of Siri Kishan Das, Supervisor and Section Officer. The correspondent concludes by remarking that, although passed candidates were available for the post of Muharrir of *chakbandi*, ten outsiders were engaged, of whom only one possessed the required qualifications.

Scarcity at Dera Ismail Khan.

26. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th August 1902, reports the prevalence of severe distress in the Dera Ismail Khan District. The Editor urges the District authorities to take prompt action.

The Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund for the Punjab.

27. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 13th August 1902, after publishing a translation of the notice relating to the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund, says that Lady Rivaz takes a very keen interest in the welfare of the women of the Punjab, and it is to be expected that under her guidance the fund will be appropriately used for the furtherance of the object for which it is intended.

The same.

28. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 16th August 1902, suggests that the notice should be widely circulated among midwives in the Punjab.

Captain Elliot, Assistant Commissioner.

29. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 13th August 1902, praises Captain Elliot of the Punjab Commission as an officer who possesses executive abilities of a very high order. After remarking that it was through his efforts that crime was put down in the Gujrat district, the Editor expresses the hope that Captain Elliot will be placed in permanent charge of some district before long.

30. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 16th August 1902, says that one Babu Mangal Sain of Rawalpindi published an obscene novel entitled "The Mysteries of Naini Tal" against which the people of Naini Tal made a representation to the Government of India, with the result that the Punjab Government has been instructed to direct the Deputy Commissioner, Rawalpindi, to destroy all the undisposed of copies of the book or to prosecute Babu Mangal Sain under Section 292, Indian Penal Code. The Babu has, however, agreed to the former alternative and has made a representation in his defence. It is also stated that he has been dismissed from service.

An obscene book.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—29-8-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 15th August 1902	2,027	4	4
Small subscriptions	94	15	0
Total ...	2,122	3	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,575	5	2

(b)—Home.

Expenses of Indian guests in London.

2. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 16th August 1902, after reprinting a note from the *Hindustani* (Lucknow), condemning the stinginess of the India Office in charging the expenses of Indian guests to the Indian rate-payers, says that it is undesirable to prolong the controversy any further. The Editor hopes that the self-respect of India will not allow her to beg England to defray the expenses of the Indian guests, although the British Cabinet have made a mistake in refusing to pay for their entertainment. He concludes by reiterating the suggestion made in a previous issue (*vide* paragraph 4 of Selections No. 31) that Indian guests should pay their own expenses.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1902, while admitting that British rule has proved a boon to India, is unable to endorse the statement recently made by Mr. Edward that the country is growing richer every day owing to a rapid development of its resources. As a matter of fact, the case is quite the reverse, inasmuch as India has been rendered so poor that it can hardly find money for the construction of railway lines. In support of this view the Editor quotes the figures compiled by Mr. Dadabhoy Naoroji six years ago with a view to show that the drain on the resources of India has already reduced her to abject poverty and that the drain is increasing. In addition to the 50 crore pounds taken by England (in the shape of Home charges) the latter country is benefited in numerous other ways by her connection with India. For instance, English factories are patronised with orders for the supply of Government stores for India. But for this, articles of native manufacture would have been taken by Government and the produce of the country would have remained there. English capitalists, moreover, make a good deal of money by free trade with India. The Editor then goes on to disprove the theory that British rule has largely contributed to the increase of the productive power of this country by introducing foreign capital. As a matter of fact, when a debt is raised in a foreign country for any object, say, the construction of a railway line, a good deal of the outlay is appropriated by foreign workmen and others, to say nothing of the interest paid to foreigners on the money raised from them. It is, indeed, true that India stands badly in need of English capital, but at the same time there can be no denying the fact that it can ill afford to part with a large portion of its produce.

British rule in India.

III.—Native States.

4. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer after praising Mr. W. R. Lawrence, late Settlement Commissioner of Kashmir, and his immediate successor, remarks that it is the duty of the Settlement Officer working under the Commissioner to exercise control over the ministerial staff of the Department. Pandit Manmohan Nath, who lately held that position, discharged his duties to the satisfaction of both the public and the authorities. Since his promotion, however, to the Governorship of Kashmir, another gentleman who is anxious to retire owing to advanced age has, in defiance of all rules of Government service, been appointed Settlement Officer, to the utter astonishment of the people, who are led to think that the authorities are heedless of the true interests of the country.

Kashmir affairs.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

5. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th August 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer refers at length to certain incidents in the life of one Jafar, a follower of the Prophet Muhammad, to show that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian has not acted in accordance with the teachings of the Prophet in writing the two pamphlets submitted by him to the late Queen-Empress. After stating that the Mirza has announced in a recent

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian.

publication that he is the equal of the Prophet Muhammad, the writer praises Sir Syad Ahmad, saying that although the founder of the Aligarh School enjoyed the implicit confidence of the educated Muhammadans of India and was the author of many a religious reform, he never claimed to be an apostle. The writer concludes by reproducing some passages from the writings of the Mirza with a view to show that the latter misinterprets the Quran to suit his own purposes.

Golden Temple affairs.

6. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th August 1902, condemns the appointment of Munshi Sant Ram in the place of Munshi Bhola Singh on the ground that the former was once made to resign his post in the Golden Temple in consequence of certain complaints made against him in the *Ahluwalia Gazette*. Besides this, he smokes, and his appointment is therefore not acceptable to the Sikhs. After suggesting that an English-knowing Munshi should be engaged in place of Sant Ram, the Editor says that either a whole-time Manager should be appointed for the Golden Temple or that its care should be entrusted to a Manager and a select committee of Sikhs.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

7. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1902, states the aims and objects of the Police Commission and calls upon native Police Officers of both the superior and inferior grades to avail themselves of so rare an opportunity for urging the introduction of salutary reforms into the Police administration of the country. The Editor says he will be glad to publish any communication addressed to him on the subject for the information of the authorities, and urges that Native Officers should not be afraid of offering suggestions or representing their grievances through the columns of their organ, seeing that the articles recently published in Anglo-Indian papers were, in all probability, contributed by European Officers of the Police Department. After praising the members of the Police Commission selected from the Punjab, the Editor remarks that it is very desirable that Mr. Warburton should be placed on the Commission, as that officer enjoys the reputation of being an able detective, well acquainted with the working of the Police, and he will be able to suggest valuable reforms for raising the efficiency of the force. A communication is also published in which the writer suggests that only educated and capable men should be allowed to enlist in the Police and that uneducated men should be employed only for such duties as mounting guards, &c., and should on no account be entrusted with the investigation of cases. Arrangements should also be made in the Training School for imparting a practical knowledge of the work of the Police, in addition to the subjects already taught there. Officers of the superior grades should be required to investigate important cases and those of inferior rank unimportant cases. The number of inspecting officers should be increased and they should be required to exercise effective control over their subordinates and train them throughly

in their work. Officers in charge of Police Stations should be warned against intriguing against one another on pain of severe punishment. The salaries of officers entrusted with the investigation of cases should be raised, as this is the only way of effectively putting down corruption among them. The evil consequences of corruption should be brought home to Police officials in the Training School, and they should be directed to subscribe to the *Police Advocate*, which contains articles calculated to impress on its readers the desirability of remaining honest.

The same.

8. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th August 1902, says that it behoves the Police Commission to suggest in its report that an offence under Section 411, Indian Penal Code, should be made bailable, because instances are not wanting in which well-to-do mahajans have been implicated in such cases and kept in the lock-up by the Police from malicious or avaricious motives.

The same.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, says that during the previous week several respectable witnesses gave evidence before the local Committee of the Police Commission. The Editor is surprised at the paucity of zamindar witnesses that appeared before the Commission, and says that this is to be regretted as the zamindars are greatly interested in the efficiency of the Police.

Grievances of Police Officers in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

10. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1902, observes with regret that in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh, Sub-Inspectors of Police are not allowed chairs in the presence of superior officers and that such inconsiderate treatment is calculated to lower the prestige of the Police officials concerned in the eyes of the public. Moreover, those officials who falsely and dishonestly manage to show good returns are considered capable and deserving of promotion, while others who endeavour to do their work honestly are considered incompetent. It is for this reason that some Police Officers get up false cases with a view to swelling the number of offences and the convictions secured by them. The complaint is also made that in some districts Sub-Inspectors in charge of Police Stations have to grease the palm of the District Superintendent's Reader through fear of being got into trouble by that official. The Editor calls upon the Lieutenant-Governor and the Inspector-General of Police of the United Provinces to attend to these complaints.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th August 1902, is surprised to learn that Abdul Aziz is no longer in the good books of Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality. The paper is afraid that the proposed appointment of Doctor Pohlu Ram, Inspector of Foods, to the charge of the slaughter-house

is not without some significance, seeing that a Hindu cannot be expected to accept a post, the work of which is abhorrent to his religious susceptibilities. After remarking that the Mooltan contractor was recently given a paying job, *viz.*, the construction of a Municipal drain which was made in the Hall Bazar by two masons in one day and for which Rs. 25 was charged to the Municipality, the Editor concludes by alleging that the sanitary condition of the locality adjoining the shops of one Chaudhri Ghasita Mal in the Hall Bazar is very defective, and that one or two cases of plague have already occurred in that quarter.

Mr. Nicholl, Assistant Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

12. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th (received on the 22nd) August 1902, ridicules the action of the local Municipality in giving three months' notice to poor Mr. Nicholl, and expresses surprise that no notice has been taken of the conduct of Mr. Gardener, against whom the Editor has published numerous complaints.

Municipal elections at Amritsar.

13. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th August 1902, says that during the last Municipal elections the public were put to much inconvenience by the *badmashes* engaged by some of the candidates to help them in securing votes. The local authorities would do well to take steps to prevent a repetition of such scandals. The Editor adds that if the suggestion about the foundation of a "Rate-payers' Association" made by him some two years ago had been adopted, the state of things complained of would never have occurred. It is, however, satisfactory to note that some educated and enlightened gentlemen took notice of the matter, and a meeting was convened on the 13th instant at the Theatre Hall, Amritsar, at which members were proposed for a Rate-payers' Association.

The same.

14. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th August 1902, says that all proceedings in connection with the last Municipal elections at Amritsar were illegal. Men of doubtful character—the scum of society—were hired to personate voters, while the bullies and roughs of the city mounted guard at the place where elections were held. Some of these so-called voters were sent to the lock-up and subsequently imprisoned and fined by Hafiz Muhammad Yusaf, Magistrate, 1st Class, Amritsar. The Editor, after remarking that the candidates who hired these roughs should also have been punished for abetment, says that a petition for the cancellation of the elections has been submitted through Lala Todar Mal, Barrister-at-Law to the Punjab Government, and a suit will shortly be instituted praying that the elections may be declared null and void. He adds that Mr. Gardener spared no pains in forwarding the interests of certain candidates and that the wife of one of these drove to the bungalow of the Secretary with the object of expressing her gratitude to Mrs. Gardener for the help given to her husband. The Editor promises to give a detailed account of this visit on a future occasion.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Delhi Darbar and the Editors of Indian newspapers.

15. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 23rd August 1902, strongly condemns the action of Government in inviting the Editors of only worthless Vernacular newspapers to the Delhi Darbar. After stating that the newspaper-reading public

have always looked upon the *Peace Maker*, *Punjabee*, *Vakil*, *Akhbar-i-Am*, *Public Gazette*, *Sat Dharm Parchark* and *Watan* (Lahore) as leading papers, the Editor observes that the *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana) is not known to many even by name, while the *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), though received in Simla, is never so much as opened, as Editors, unlike Government, do not think it worth their while to peruse articles containing fulsome praise of the powers that be. It is unpardonable in an enlightened Government to be ignorant of the amount of influence exercised by the various newspapers published in the country, and the Punjab Government have, by their choice, proved that they are thoroughly ignorant of the status of the various local prints. The Editor concludes by suggesting that the mistake should be remedied by including at least two more Vernacular papers, conformably to public opinion, in the list of Editors proposed to be invited.

16. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th August 1902, states that 37 native Editors have been invited to the Delhi Darbar, and that the Punjab will be represented by the *Tribune* and the *Observer* (Lahore), the *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), and the *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot). After remarking ironically that Government have evinced a true sense of discrimination in their choice, the Editor congratulates the above-mentioned papers, particularly the last named, on the distinction.

The same.

17. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, remarks that Government's selection of native journalists to be invited to the Delhi Darbar has been received with great surprise by the public. It is to be feared that the "Newspaper Department" of Government is no better than the Intelligence Department of the War Office in South Africa.

The same.

18. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th August 1902, after thanking Government for taking energetic measures to combat the plague, remarks that inoculation is likely to prove an effective remedy and that the public should undergo the operation without any hesitation. It is, however, desirable that doctors selected for the work should be men of good manners.

The plague.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—8-9-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS,

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 22nd August 1902	...	2,122	3	4
Small subscriptions	...	45	8	0
Total	...	2,167	11	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	6,453	1	10
Grand Total	...	8,620	13	2

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Amir of Kabul.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 25th August 1902, quotes a passage from the *Daily Mail*, London, with a view to show that the relations between the British Government and the present Amir of Kabul are as strained as they were in the year 1876-77, when Amir Sher Ali Khán was the ruler of Afghanistan. The Editor adds that, after answering the letters of condolence addressed to him on the death of his father, Amir Habib Ullah Khan has assumed an attitude which is utterly inexplicable, and there remains no longer any hope of friendly relations being re-established between him and the Government of Idnia. Indeed, the Amir has for some time past stopped all communication with the Government, except so far as purely official matters are concerned. Moreover, when a British Indian subject enters the borders of Afghanistan, he is suspected of being a

spy, and the Amir endeavours to prevent all news about Afghanistan reaching India. Although it would not be politic to stop or suspend for a time the payment of the Amir's subsidy, yet such a course would appear necessary to bring him to his senses. It should also be remembered that Habib Ullah Khan himself is not in so secure a position as he was thought to be at the time of his accession, and the fact that he has resumed the policy of his father in regard to the internal administration of the country, notwithstanding his earnest promises to the contrary, goes a long way to show that His Highness is afraid of the machinations of his step-mother, Bibi Halima, who naturally wishes to see her own son, Muhammad Umar Khan, placed on the throne of Kabul. As a matter of fact, the more indifference His Highness shows in his attachment to the British Crown, the weaker becomes his position in Afghanistan. The Editor then goes on to say that in case it should be found necessary to effect any change in the existing *regime* at Kabul, Sardar Ayub Khan, who has already proved himself to be a brave and courageous Chief, should be entrusted with the administration of the country, as he would not be likely to offer any opposition to the construction of a railway line to Kandhar and the development of trade with Afghanistan.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

8. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 24th August 1902, remarks that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad prayed in the course of a religious discourse that God might protect him from the vicious (*lit.* cuckold) Christians of London, who are foolishly supposed to lead a happy life.

The same paper observes that the followers of the Mirza having been likened some time ago to (the crew of) the Ark, some evil like the Deluge was expected to overtake the people. The apprehended evil has now manifested itself in the shape of plague.

In another paragraph the paper reminds the adherents of the "Prophet of Kadian" that whoever among them fails to support the cause of the Mirza, either by means of subscriptions or otherwise, will have his name struck off the list of the followes of the "Promised Messiah," as already proclaimed by a notice dated the 5th March 1902. The Editor adds that it behoves all true disciples of the Mirza to induce their brethren to respond to the appeal of their leader and thus show that they really believe in him.

Christian missionaries and destitute Hindu children.

4. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 28th August 1902, says that the oft-recurring famines in India have proved a Godsend to the Missionaries, who have converted thousands of destitute orphans to Christianity. Thus the loss of India is the gain of the Missionaries; nor is this to be wondered at seeing that the appeals made by Christian Missionaries for charity are promptly responded to, while the mere mention of "subscription" is enough to frighten Aryas away from the *Samaj*.

The same.

5. The same paper publishes a communication from one Das Kishen Singh Ghasita Ram (Ajmer), who says that India has certainly fallen on evil days, and that its misfortunes have not yet come to an end, seeing that

famine has driven thousands of Hindu families in Rajputana and Malwa to forsake their religion. The writer dwells on the terrible famine raging in Kathiawar, and exhorts his co-religionists to spare neither time nor money in the sacred cause of affording relief to the famine-stricken. He feels confident that much could be done if the Hindus could be prevailed upon to contribute the expenses which they incur on even a single pilgrimage towards rescuing famine-stricken children. After remarking that foreigners at a considerable distance from their homes are labouring to make converts, the writer takes the Hindus to task for their apathy and negligence, and observes that it is a crying shame that they should suffer their children to forsake their religion for the sake of bread.

The Arya Samajists and Sikhs.

6. The *Khalsa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1902, states that a communication has been received from Sardar Indar Singh, Contractor, Mandalay, to the effect that a meeting of the Sikhs was held at Jatao in Burma on the 15th June 1902, which was attended by Lala Wadhawa Mal and Pandit Devi Ditta Mal, Arya Samajists, who had a book in their possession entitled the "*Arya Sangit Pushpawali*," written by Lala Jiwan Das, Pensioner, of Lahore, which contains the following poem at page 271 :—

"Saying of Guru Gobind Singh.

"*Hymn No.* 410.

"I am a slave of the Supreme Being ;
"I am come to look at the stage of the world,
"And to disseminate the doctrine of the Vedas,
"As well as to efface the blot of cow-killing.
"Those who call me God
"Will go to infernal hell.
"If you Aryas are my disciples
"Give up your lives for the sake of religion (*dharm*)."

This hymn was read by the two Aryas at the meeting.

The Editor remarks that the readers of the paper will be surprised to see that the poem has been published by the Lala as a saying of the Tenth Guru, as the original text in Guru Gobind Singh's autobiography called "*Bachittar Natak*" is as follows (a comparison will show the interpolations made by the Arya author) :—

"I am a slave of the Supreme Being ;
I am come to look at the stage of the world.
What God revealed to me I will disclose.
I will not observe silence ;
Those who call me God
Will all go to hell.
Know me as His slave ;
"Do not entertain an iota of doubt in this respect."

It will be seen from the above that the Lala has substituted new lines for the third, fourth, seventh and eighth lines in the original text. This vice and weakness fall to the lot of the Arya Samajists alone, who by making

false insertions in a poem, of their own accord, ensnare the simple-minded Sikhs. It is a pity that they publish such lies. Lala Jiwan Das is asked to quote the work from which the above extracts have been taken by him. The following verse from "Bachittar Natak" regarding the Vedas is then published by the Editor :—

"The four Vedas were prepared by Brahma.
"They cause the people to adhere to religious ceremonies.
"Those who have set their minds on the Almighty God
"Have renounced the Vedas."

The Editor hopes that Lala Jiwan Das will expunge the improper passages from his book. He should not take liberties with the sacred sayings of the religious leader of the Sikhs.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

Raja Talib Mahdi of the Provincial Service.

7. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd August 1902, says that Raja Talib Mahdi is among those rising officers whose abilities and diligence are admitted on all hands. He was practically in charge of the Rohtak District for a long time, and by his devotion to duty won the confidence of his superiors. He is now to act as Deputy Commissioner. The Editor expresses a hope that this appointment will prove the forerunner of Raja Talib Mahdi's future promotion.

(b)—Police.

Police Officers and their salaries.

8. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, writing on Police reform, says that not only should Police Officers, salaries be raised, but their number should be increased and arrangements made for securing the services of well-educated men. After pointing out that subordinate officers cannot maintain themselves decently on the small salaries they receive, the Editor urges that the following scale of pay should be introduced:—

Constable, rising from		Rs.	12	per month to Rs.	15.
Sergeant, 3rd Grade,		„	20	ditto	25.
Ditto, 2nd	„	„	30	ditto	35.
Ditto, 1st	„	„	40	ditto	45.
Deputy Inspector, 3rd Grade,		„	60	ditto	70.
Ditto, 2nd	„	„	80	ditto	90.
Ditto, 1st	„	„	100	ditto	120.
Inspector,		„	150	ditto	300.

The above scale should be adopted in the case of those entrusted with the investigation of cases, the rest being paid at the rates prevailing in the native army.

The Police and badmashes.

9. The same paper reproduces the remarks of the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), showing how *badmashes* resort to strange contrivances to get the police into trouble. For instance, some inflict injuries on themselves while others have the hardihood to strangle or drown themselves in order to get the police into trouble. A charge of beating recently brought against a Deputy Inspector and two Constables at Gurdaspur is, according to a correspondent, of a piece with the practices mentioned above.

The Dehra Dun Police.

10. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer says that ill-feeling has been prevalent among the members of the Dehra Dun Police, with the result that they have been bringing false charges against one another. The writer after giving a number of instances in which police officials of the said district have been dismissed, suspended or imprisoned, says that a certain Inspector of a Circle is suspected of being at the bottom of all these animosities. In order to remedy this it is suggested that the Dehra Dun Police Officers should be transferred to different districts.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

The Amritsar Municipal election.

11. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th August 1902, writing on the irregularities alleged to have been practised at the last Municipal elections at Amritsar, says that *muharirs* engaged on the preparation of the list of voters did their work so carelessly that all Municipal sweepers and watermen drawing from Rs. 2 to Rs. 4 per month were entered as qualified voters and allowed to elect a Muhammadan candidate. Similar irregularities helped to augment the number of Muhammadan voters, who numbered 12,000, as compared with 6,000 at the last elections, with the result that several unpopular persons were returned—men who can hardly be expected to understand their duties.

The same.

12. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, learns from a correspondent that the last Municipal elections at Amritsar were marked with several irregularities and that no steps were taken to see that only duly qualified persons voted. This was particularly the case with Muhammadan candidates, against whom complaints have been made to the Deputy Commissioner.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality.

13. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th August 1902, says that with one or two exceptions the members of the Municipality are under obligation of some kind to the Secretary, who, finding that no notice is taken of the complaints made against him, has been greatly encouraged in his malpractices and accepts bribes from the citizens, as well as from municipal employés, without hesitation. Those who supplied information to the *Ahluwalia Gazette* about the Municipal Office and were opposed to the giving of bribes to Mr. Gardener, finding themselves powerless in the matter,

have now gone over to the side of the Secretary. The Editor, after alleging that Municipal servants refusing to win favour by giving bribes are transferred from place to place, urges Government to call upon Mr. Gardener either to clear himself of the charges made against him from time to time or to resign his post.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

14. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, says that the recommendations of the Universities Commission clearly aim at the attainment of a high standard of efficiency at the expense of Second Grade Colleges which annually turn out so many educated young men belonging to the poorer classes. The Editor further remarks that the number of educated persons, according to the Census of 1891, is only 10 per cent. of the total population, of whom not more than 2 per cent. deserve to be called educated in the true sense of the word. In these circumstances the Commission ought to aim at providing additional facilities, instead of practically shutting the door of learning in the face of a large portion of the people.

The same.

15. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 27th August 1902, expresses the hope that all the Provinces of India will hold meetings like the one recently held in the Town Hall, Calcutta, to condemn the recommendations of the Universities Commission, which are calculated to deal a death-blow to the cause of education. Indeed, if the recommendations of the Commission are carried into effect education will be placed beyond the reach of most of the people of India, who will relapse into a state of ignorance and prove as a great source of danger to the country and its rulers as the Frontier tribes, because it is the educated and the educated alone who are in a position to form a correct estimate of England's power. The Commission was, no doubt, actuated by the best of motives in recommending that a comparatively small number of young men should receive a sound and liberal education instead of a large number passing through an inadequate course of instruction; but they do not appear to have taken into consideration the peculiar circumstances of India, otherwise they would not have fixed a minimum fee of Rs. 10 for Colleges. In olden times teachers were assigned jagirs and, besides teaching their pupils, they provided them with board and lodging.

The Editor then goes on to say that it is not only the rich who are gifted with good intellect, but that persons belonging to the middle classes are known to have startled the world by their great achievements in the field of learning. If the rate of fees is to be enhanced the great middle class will be deprived of the opportunities of education which they now enjoy.

Middle School Examination of the Punjab University.

16. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 25th August 1902, publishes a communication from one Langahi of Karala, in which the writer says that the proposed abolition of the Middle School Examination is likely to prejudicially affect the interests of the Muhammadans, who are already very backward in education.

He therefore suggests that instead of doing away with the examination altogether, Government ought to direct that it should be conducted by the Educational Department. He further suggests that Technical Schools should be started in various parts of the Province.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the zamindars.

17. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 23rd August 1902, publishes a communication from Mirza Sultan Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* para. 18 of Selections No. 34), says that agricultural implements imported from Europe have been used in India with varying degrees of success. In the Punjab they could not be expected to prove very successful, as a large number of peasant proprietors here own small holdings and cannot afford to buy costly implements. The writer then goes on to suggest that samples of ploughs, &c., used in different parts of the Punjab should be collected by District Boards and efforts made to induce people to adopt the use of superior implements of agriculture. He calls upon the local bodies to encourage the use of better kinds of seed by a free distribution of the same among zamindars, adding that the object in view can be more effectually attained by awarding prizes to such agriculturists as successfully cultivate the seeds given them. The writer concludes by dwelling upon the importance of bringing home to zamindars the advantages of various kinds of manures which are at present unknown to the majority of agriculturists.

A suggestion for canal irrigation at Bhera.

18. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 28th August 1902, says that no rain fell at Bhera in the Shahpur District during the previous week. The *nullah* has dried up and it is to be feared that the rice crop will fail. The Editor urges the desirability of constructing a canal to carry water from the river to the inundation *nullah* called *Rani Bah*.

(f)—*Railways and Communications.*

Muhammadans and the Railway service.

19. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd August 1902, complains of the decision of the Traffic Superintendent of the North-Western Railway, who has directed that the number of Muhammadans in his office should be reduced so as to equalise their number with that of the Hindus. The Editor urges that the Muhammadan population in the Punjab, Sindh and Baluchistan require special consideration as their number is very large compared with Hindus. But, granting that it is desirable to equalise the numbers of the two castes, the principle should be enforced in all the offices and not in the Traffic Superintendent's Office alone. After alleging that not a single Muhammadan is employed on the Railway line, the Editor attaches a table showing that there are 266 Hindus and only 49 Muhammadans employed in the various offices connected with the North-Western Railway.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Editors of Vernacular Papers and the Delhi Darbar.

20. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd August 1902, says that the Vernacular Press is to be very inadequately represented at the Delhi Darbar, seeing that important papers like the *Aligarh Gazette* and *Albashir* from the United Provinces, and the *Paisa Akhbar*, *Akhbar-i-'Am*, *Vakil*, *Watan*, and *Curzon Gazette* from the Punjab, have not been honoured with invitations. After remarking that Editors possessing certificates and *sanads* have been selected, the *Chaudhwin Sadi* takes Government to task for being ignorant of the real state of the country. The Editor reprints the remarks of the *Albashir*, which considers that the *Watan*, the *Vakil*, and the *Chaudhwin Sadi* are among the leading Muhammadan papers and testifies to the wide circulation of the *Paisa Akhbar* and the *Curzon Gazette*.

The same.

21. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1902, condemns the action of Government in not inviting leading journals like the *Bharat Mittar* (Calcutta), the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), and several other weekly papers of the Punjab to the Coronation Darbar. The Editor expresses a hope that Government will, after a perusal of the comments made by the Native Press, see its way to inviting some more Editors.

The same.

22. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th August 1902, after publishing the list of newspapers the representatives of which have been invited to the Darbar, remarks that some of the leading papers which had a right to expect such an honour must have been disappointed to find themselves excluded from the list. The Editor says that in reality there is no cause for dissatisfaction, seeing that the number of Native newspapers to which invitations have been issued is double that of the Anglo-Indian papers upon which a similar honour is conferred.

The same.

23. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 27th August 1902, after remarking that Lord Curzon has followed in the wake of Lord Lytton in issuing invitations to representatives of the Press to attend the Darbar, expresses its thanks for the honour conferred upon it by the Government in inviting its representative.

The Punjab Plague Inoculation Scheme.

24. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th August 1902, after remarking that the 37 doctors engaged in London for the work of inoculation in the Punjab will shortly arrive, says that native inoculators, some of whom on the score of their long experience may be regarded as experts in this work, should have been employed in preference to the inexperienced medical practitioners coming from London, inasmuch as the former possess an intimate knowledge of the country and its people and their services can be secured on smaller pay than that sanctioned for the European doctors.

25. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 28th August 1902, after publishing the translation of a circular issued by Mr. Loxton, Deputy Commissioner, Sialkot, on the Plague Inoculation Scheme, says that energetic measures should be taken to combat the plague, and that all leading and representative persons should lend a helping hand to ensure the success of the scheme.

The same.

26. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th August 1902, remarks that it is very satisfactory to learn that Government does not intend to resort to compulsion in carrying out its scheme of wholesale inoculation in the Punjab. The Editor urges upon the readers of his paper to pay no heed to the idle talk of ignorant people against inoculation which is the best preventive known against the plague.

The same.

27. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th August 1902, remarks that Government has spent an enormous amount of money on checking the spread of the plague in India and now that a recrudescence of the epidemic is feared in the Punjab, a scheme has been launched for wholesale inoculation. It, therefore, behoves every educated person in the Province to impress the following facts upon the minds of his ignorant brethren :—

The same.

(1) That Government is not likely to take any steps calculated to injure their subjects.

(2) That an expenditure of nine lakhs of rupees has been sanctioned to save the people from the terrible scourge with which the Province is threatened.

(3) That European Doctors have been sent for from England in order that native Doctors may not have any opportunity of making money by unfair means.

(4) That compulsion will not be resorted to in carrying out the operations.

The Editor concludes by remarking that the remedy proposed is likely to prove beneficial to the public, provided the Doctors pay due regard to the strength of each person at the time of inoculating.

28. The *Ghamkhar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, says that plague officers should possess not only such qualities as patience, perseverance and sympathy with the people, but also tact and powers of persuasion. It is chiefly owing to want of tact that friction has occurred between Plague Officers and the public. The Editor has been led to express these views as the relations existing between Plague Officers and the people in certain districts of the Punjab are the reverse of what they ought to be.

Plague officers.

29. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th August 1902, states that rumours are afloat to the effect that some Native Chiefs will be required to act as pages to the Viceroy on the occasion of the Darbar, and says that 25 years ago the

The Coronation Darbar.

Maharaja of Kashmir refused to attend the Prince of Wales as a page at a Darbar held in honour of His Royal Highness. The spread of Western education and a better acquaintance with European customs, adds the Editor, have no doubt worked great changes; but, seeing that the Natives of India are naturally very conservative in certain matters, it is inadvisable to insist on the Chiefs rendering such service.

The same.

30. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th August 1902, observes that a good many of the nobility of India must have been disappointed to find that they have not been honoured with invitations to the Darbar. If, however, tickets of admission to the Darbar be sold, as proposed by the *Tribune*, rich persons would be sure to buy them at any price and thus a large part of the public money to be spent on the occasion would be contributed by well-to-do persons who could afford to pay.

A suggestion to open shops for the sale of Court fee stamps.

31. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th August 1902, remarks that the one shop recently opened at Lahore for the sale of Court fee stamps will not be sufficient, and urges that there should be at least two such shops at the head-quarters of each district and one in each tahsil. The Editor adds that the commission realised from the sale of Court fee stamps would cover the cost of opening such shops.

Indian representatives in London.

32. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 24th August 1902, observes in the course of a long article that the natives of India invited to London on the occasion of the Coronation should have asked for some rights and concessions for their countrymen. If they were unable to make such a request owing to the Emperor's illness and the change of the Ministery, there was nothing to prevent them from taking advantage of the presence in England of the Premiers and other Colonial representatives to impress upon them the desirability of removing the many disabilities of British Indian subjects in some of the colonies. While the Colonial representatives have secured a good many concessions for their own colonies by convening a conference in England, the natives of India have returned home without obtaining any privileges for their country.

Industrial development in India.

33. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th August 1902, after remarking that it is essential to improve agriculture in this country, observes that in order to extricate India from the difficulties in which she is at present involved, it is desirable that Government should turn their attention to the industrial development of the country. As a matter of fact, India supplies a considerable part of the raw material which comes back to it in the form of manufactured articles, involving the loss of the wages of labour needed to manufacture the raw exports and of the large profits which are made by British capitalists. In support of this view, the Editor quotes from a recent speech of Mr. Bhownaggrie, M. P., and concludes by exhorting his countrymen to do all in their power to improve indigenous arts and industries.

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 37.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 37.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 13th September 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	12,001	8	5
Small subscriptions	5	10	0
Total ...	12,007	2	5

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	2,167	11	4
Small subscriptions	103	11	0
Total ...	2,271	6	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	8,724	8	2

The same.

3. A correspondent writing to the *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 5th September 1902, asks the *Asad Punch* whether it is the Turk or the Indian Musalman who has failed to contribute liberally towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund. He adds that the indifference shown by the Turks may be held to be culpable,

since it is they who will be principally benefited by the Hedjaz Railway. The Indian Muslmans who are pestered with numerous appeals for other subscriptions, are not to blame.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Waziris.

4. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, remarks that the reason why the Waziris are constantly raiding British territory seems to be that the British Government sometimes takes no notice of their misdeeds and does not punish them as they deserve. It is therefore to be hoped that Government will make an example of the more troublesome among them so as to prevent trouble in the future.

The present Amir of Kabul.

5. The same paper is surprised to learn that plots are being hatched against the present Amir and that the political horizon of Afghanistan is far from clear. Amir Habib Ullah Khan has, so far from treading in the footsteps of his father, stopped all trade between India and Afghanistan and opened the gates of commerce to Russia. This, the Editor thinks, is done by the Amir owing to his being an inexperienced youth of 25 or 30. Russia being desirous of annexing Kabul has poisoned the mind of the Amir against the British Government. The Editor then goes on to quote a passage from the *Indian Patrika* in praise of Sardar Ayub Khan, and remarks that the Amir is at present in a fix, because his subjects have declined to comply with a certain order issued by him; also that a treaty seems to have been concluded between Russia and Afghanistan. If this be true, the Editor would advise the Amir to follow the policy of his father and try to re-establish friendly relations with the British Government.

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1902, after praising the present Amir of Kabul for his generous views, remarks that one Ghulam Mohai-ud-din, Sufi, went to Kabul three months ago and was twice honoured with an audience by the Amir. The Sufi was promised a monthly allowance of Rs. 115 by the late Amir, but never received it. It was with a view to fulfil the promise made by his father that Amir Habib Ullah Khan summoned the Sufi to Kabul and, in the course of conversation about the aims and objects of the Anjuman Himayat-i-Islam, promised a grant of Rs. 6,000 per annum for the furtherance of the objects of the Anjuman. Moreover, Bibi Hafima, the Amir's step-mother, gave the Sufi 100 *ashrafis* of Kabul, 20 for himself and 80 for the Anjuman. Sardar Muhammad Amin Ullah Khan granted two scholarships of Rs. 18 each for students of the Islamia College, Lahore. The Sufi was given Rs. 1,000 cash as travelling expenses and a *khillat* of about the same value. His allowance will be paid from the public treasury of Kabul and the grant to the Anjuman from the Privy Purse of His Highness. The Anjuman accepted the grants with thanks and prayed for the welfare of the Amir. The Editor concludes by copying the letters accompanying the grants, which are briefly to the effect that the aims and objects of the Anjuman having commended themselves to the Amir and his relations, they have extended a helping hand to the Society, thinking that the same will be considered a meritorious act in the eyes of God.

III.—Native States.

Nalagarh affairs.

7. The *Suraj* (Ambala), of the 1st September 1902, says that the inhabitants of Nalagarh, one of the Simla Hill States, are being oppressed by State officials. The Raja is old and imbecile and takes no interest in State affairs, with the result that the well-to-do inhabitants are leaving their homes with their families and effects. The Editor urges that the *Kanwar*, conjointly with the Raja, should be entrusted with the management of State affairs, so as to enable the latter to gain some experience of the duties he will one day be called upon to discharge as ruler of the State.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

8. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 31st August 1902, remarks that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad observed in the course of a lecture that he intends to prepare a list of the heavenly signs that have been vouchsafed to him in proof of his being an apostle of God. In this list first of all will be mentioned the fulfilment in the Court of the District Magistrate of Gurdaspur of the prophecy as to the Mirza being declared not guilty of attempt to murder. The fulfilment of another prophecy as to the town of Qadian remaining immune from a visitation of plague will then be entered, and in like manner other fulfilled prophecies as to the birth of sons to some of his disciples, &c. Next will be mentioned the fulfilment of the prediction regarding the birth of the child, Bashir, who is still alive.

The same.

9. The same paper remarks that the Mirza is superior to Jesus, and that while the latter was crucified and could not show the heavenly sign asked of him by the Jews, the former has worked many marvels, one of these being that Kadian, where very few people ever used to go, is now visited by persons from all quarters of the globe. Moreover, the Mirza is the recipient of all sorts of presents, a fact which can be verified by a reference to the diaries of the Police Constable stationed at Kadian as well as to the records of the Postal and Railway Departments. The Editor then goes on to observe that the Mirza has given a satisfactory explanation of Christ's ascension, *viz.*, that He first died a natural death and was then lifted up to heaven. The Mirza also endeavours to show that Christ was for inferior to Muhammad. Speaking of *jehad* the Prophet of Kadian observed that it is not permissible to proclaim *jehad* in these times when Muhammadans are at liberty to perform their religious rites. Indeed any one who takes the trouble to enquire into the origin of *jehad* will come to know that it is not intended to be resorted to without urgent necessity. In the reply to a letter received from Maulvi Muhammad Husain of Batala, the Editor remarks that the prediction as to the 'Promised Messiah' being saved from destruction at the hands of his enemies has been fulfilled, for plots were hatched and false reports made against him, and the Maulvis declared that he deserved to be hanged, but, notwithstanding all this, the Mirza has not been injured in any way. On the other hand, the number of the Mirza's followers has increased to over seventy thousand and his creed has spread to all parts of the world.

10. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1902, regrets to learn that some of the Muhammadans of Montgomery are divided into two factions and are quarrelling with each other owing to a difference of opinion on certain religious doctrines of only minor importance. The Editor asks Maulvi Abdul Aziz, who is the leader of one of the factions, to bring about a reconciliation, lest the disunion should spread to the rest of the Muhammadans of the town.

Muhammadans of Montgomery.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th September 1902, publishes a communication from one Muhammad Hakim Ansari, who urges Muhammadans to attend the Session of the *Nadwat-ul-Ulema* at Amritsar and to render thanks to Government, under whose protection every kind of religious reform can be introduced without let or hindrance.

The *Nadwat-ul-Ulema*.

12. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st September 1902, reiterates its remarks against the employment of one Sant Ram (*vide* paragraph 6 of Selections No. 35), and also observes that Sardar Arur Singh cannot perform his twofold duties as Manager of the Temple and Honorary Magistrate of Nangli-Nanabehra. The Editor concludes by alleging that some wily *Bhagats*, who have of late come to the Golden Temple, cheat people of their money. One of these persons pretends to be a man of wealth. He induced some women to become his disciples, and when he had obtained sufficient influence over them he made them pay him Rs. 4,000 each which he said would be invested in profitable business.

Golden Temple affairs.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, remarks that the landholders of Mauza Gugera, tahsil Lahore, who are Sikhs, prevent the poor Muhammadans who are residing among them from saying the *Azan* (call-to-prayers) in a loud voice. It is stated that the Sikhs beat certain Muhammadans, who had pronounced the *Azan* loudly to avert the plague, and pulled down a portion of a mosque. A complaint was lodged in the Court of Sardar Jiwan Singh, Honorary Magistrate, but as a satisfactory decision could not be expected from a Sikh in a matter like this, the case has been transferred to the Court of a European Magistrate at Lahore. The Editor concludes by asking the Honorary Magistrate to exert his influence and have the case compromised.

A dispute between Sikhs and Muhammadans in the Lahore District.

14. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, commenting on the decision of the High Court, Allahabad, in the case of Lala Someswar Dass, observes that the judgment in question has created quite a sensation in the country, and that if the higher authorities fail to see their way to interfere with it, the impression will gain ground that the natives cannot expect justice in any case in which Europeans happen to be concerned. It is anything but politic to allow such an impression to gain ground at a time when the maintenance of friendly

The case of Lala Someswar Dass.

relations with Eastern countries is considered essential for the prestige and security of the British Empire. Even admitting the facts of the case as stated by the Judge to be true, none will agree with him in thinking that a sentence of fine would not have met the ends of justice, especially when one takes into consideration the previous character and position of the accused. The Editor concludes by endorsing the remark of the *Tribune* that if a European had been the accused in the above case, he would have escaped with a trifling fine.

The same.

15. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1902, commenting on the above case, remarks that natives must be thankful to the learned Judge of the High Court for setting aside the sentence of imprisonment passed against the accused. The Editor adds, ironically, that it is gratifying indeed to learn that the English merchant of Madras who lately killed a native servant has been sentenced to a fine of Rs. 400 under Section 404 A, Indian Penal Code, as formerly the life of a native was not considered worth more than 5 to 10 rupees.

A judicial complaint.

16. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st September 1902, says that various complaints have been received against a certain Government servant who openly takes bribes and keeps agents in the city for that purpose. The Editor threatens to bring his case to the notice of the authorities if he persists in his evil practices and refuses to abstain from "*one thing more*" (*sic*), a phrase which, the Editor says, the official in question will readily understand.

(b)—Police.

A suggestion to raise the salaries of Police officials.

17. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraphs 20, 21 of Selections No. 28), says that considering the onerous duties and multifarious responsibilities of Police officials, the salaries paid to them are sadly inadequate. The Editor goes on to draw a comparison between the duties and emoluments of Police officials with those of other departments, remarking that the present scale of salaries has come down with little variation from the time of the Sikhs, notwithstanding the fact that the cost of living, &c., has now vastly increased. He calls upon Government to raise the salaries of Police officials in the interests of efficiency.

The Police Commission.

18. The same paper remarks that as some of the witnesses selected to give evidence before the local Committees of the Police Commission are ignorant of the nature of the work entrusted to the Police, it is advisable that witnesses should be selected with due care and deliberation. The Editor then complains that as some of the Provincial Committees hold their sittings with closed doors, the public are kept in the dark about their proceedings and are unable to offer any suggestions. He concludes by suggesting that witnesses should be chosen, both from among the public and the Police Department, inasmuch as the latter alone are in a position to throw light not only upon the causes of the abuses so much complained of, but also on the doings of certain unscrupulous persons who have brought disgrace upon the whole Department.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

19. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st September 1902, says that Mr. Gardener and his *protégés*, Tara Singh, Dhanpat Rai, Abdul Qadar, and Siraj-ud-din, are giving a great deal of trouble to the citizens. The Editor promises to continue publishing complaints against the Secretary and his partisans till Government takes notice of them. He is also collecting information in connection with Mr. Gardener's employment at a paper factory at Lucknow with a view to make the same public. The Editor then goes on to allege that on an Honorary Magistrate asking for some Municipal land for the purpose of constructing a drain on it, the Secretary, by representing the area of the land to be larger than it actually was, realised a large amount, and, giving the contract for the drain to the Mooltani contractor, charged Rs. 52 for a piece of work which did not cost more than Rs. 10.

Municipal elections at Amritsar.

20. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th September 1902, writing about the Municipal elections recently held at Amritsar, reproduces extracts from the *Public Gazette* and *Ahluwalia Gazette* regarding the illegal proceedings on the occasion, and regrets that no notice has been taken of the serious charges preferred against the Municipal Secretary, Mr. Gardener, by the last-named paper.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

21. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, while approving of the recommendations of the Universities Commission in general, takes exception to the proposed exclusion of natives from the constitution of Senates, to the raising of tuition fees and the closing of second grade colleges, for reasons similar to those urged by the *Vakil* and the *Victoria Paper* (*vide* paragraphs 16 and 17 of Selections No. 34).

The same.

22. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, says that Bengali Papers have taken the lead in condemning the recommendations of the Universities Commission. The Hindus are afraid that in the event of these recommendations being adopted, their colleges would be closed, while the Muhammadans object to the raising of College fees on the ground that this would effectually shut the door of high education against them. The Editor, however, sees nothing in the recommendations to alarm the people, remarking that as colleges incompetently manned must naturally turn out second-rate graduates, the fewer we have of them the better. He then goes on to say that all civilized Governments have invariably aimed at popularising Primary education and raising the standard of high education, and urges the public to thank the Government for the interest it has evinced in the matter. He concludes by remarking that the Muhammadans need not be dissatisfied, as provision has been made to enable poor students to continue their studies in their national free institutions.

23. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, says that the sum and substance of the report of the Universities Commission is that Government, being dissatisfied with the present system of education, desires that the doors of knowledge should be shut in the face of all except its true lovers. The Editor is surprised to find some persons taking up the cudgels on behalf of a system that has neither improved the intellectual capacities of our young men nor brought them any worldly prosperity. Indeed, India is not indebted for her moral, political, social or intellectual regeneration to her educated sons, whose sole aim in life is to enter Government service. As it is impossible to find employment for all educated men, it is apparent that these disappointed place-hunters can hardly be of any use either to the Government or the country.

The same.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

24. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, commenting on the working of the Punjab Land Alienation Act during the past few months, observes that the enactment in question is not calculated to place an effective check on the alienation of land, inasmuch as agriculturists are allowed to make such alienations among themselves, a provision which is sure to lower the value of land. As a matter of fact, it is absolutely necessary that Government should change its policy of assessment with a view to ameliorate the condition of the agricultural community of the Province. The rural and urban population should be assessed alike (?) and the zamindars should be encouraged to act prudently and to make the best use of the land in their possession.

The working of the Land Alienation Act.

25. The same paper suggests that the following measures should be adopted for the improvement of agriculture in this country in imitation of the action taken by the Turkish Government in their own dominions :—

A scheme for improving agriculture in India.

(1) That education in Agriculture be made compulsory for boys from the age of 6 and 7 and for girls from the age of 7 and 11 years.

(2) That lessons in Agriculture and Engineering be given in all Primary and Middle Schools.

(3) That persons educated in Agricultural Schools should be exempted from military service (*sic*).

(4) That teachers for these schools be selected from among the students of the same institutions.

(5) That authors of works on Agriculture should be made members of an Agricultural Society, which should be entrusted with the task of devising measures for developing the agricultural resources of the country.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

26. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 1st September 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer calls attention to the unsatisfactory condition of the foot-path on either side of the Chenab Railway Bridge. The path, besides being very narrow, is only guarded by wire fencing on the river side, which affords but poor protection against accidents. As a case in point, the writer states that a mare fell into the river a few days ago, and that he himself, on a previous occasion, had a narrow escape while crossing the path on horseback. He therefore urges upon the Railway authorities the imperative necessity of widening the path and protecting it by iron railings. The writer also suggests that the octroi official posted there should not allow cattle to cross the bridge while a train is passing over.

The foot-path on the Chenab Railway Bridge.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

27. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, complains of the inadequate representation of Editors from the Punjab at the coming Delhi Darbar, and expresses the hope that Government will see their way to inviting a larger number.

The Delhi Darbar and the Editors of Indian newspapers.

28. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, writing on the same topic, takes its contemporaries to task for the way in which they have criticised the action of Government and endeavoured to cry down the Editors who have been invited to Delhi. The best course, adds the Editors for those who were anxious for the distinction would have been to press their claims upon Government, instead of vilifying their more fortunate brethren who have been honoured with invitations. The Editor concludes by expressing his concurrence with the opinion expressed by the *Hindustani* (Lucknow) that Editors of newspapers should be above going about begging for admission tickets to Darbars.

The same.

29. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 3rd September 1902, also makes similar remarks and endorses the view of the *Rafiq-i-Hind* that Editors, instead of quarrelling among themselves, should have thanked Government for inviting a number of newspaper representatives to the Darbar.

The same.

30. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st September 1902, writing on the same object, says that the selection made by Government has occasioned much heart-burning, but thinks that the fact of some 50 papers out of a total of about 800 journals and newspapers being invited clearly shows that Government is fully alive to the importance of the Press. The Editor then goes on to justify the selection made by Government.

The same.

31. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, takes exception to the remarks made by certain papers against "*The Haq*," which has been invited to send a representative to the Delhi Darbar. The Editor goes on to say that although it is a fact that leading papers of other Provinces have, like those of the Punjab,

The same.

been excluded from the list of guests, yet Lord Curzon does not seem to have intended that invitations to the representatives of the Press should be sparingly issued in the interests of economy. If the Native Press unite to represent the matter to His Excellency, the list in question is sure to be enlarged.

The same.

32. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, remarks that the vernacular newspapers to which invitations have been issued are not known to the reading public even by name. The Editor makes some quotations from the *Tribune*, the *Albashir* and the *Observer* to show that the public have been surprised to find that the *Paisa Akhbar*, which enjoys the largest circulation among vernacular papers, has been denied this honour. Is Government really ignorant of the names of the leading Urdu papers? There can be no denying the fact that Government bases all its actions on some principle; but the principle on which the selection of vernacular newspapers has been made does not commend itself to the public, inasmuch as great injustice seems to have been done to the Editors of leading papers. No one who knows anything about newspapers in India will have the face to say that the *Oudh Akhbar*, the *Victoria Paper* and the *Agra Akhbar* are superior to such papers as the *Hindustani*, the *Riaz-ul-Akhbar*, the *Albashir*, the *Institute Gazette*, the *Vakil*, &c.

A suggestion to release an Editor on the occasion of the Darbar.

33. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1902, remarks that Munshi Aziz Ahmad of Glasgow has sent a leaflet in Roman-Urdu to the Editors of newspapers in India which is briefly as follows:—

"*Prayer*—May the Government of India be moved to release Munshi Amba Pershad, Editor. It behoves the Editors of Indian newspapers to endeavour to secure the release of their fellow-Editor and not to care for empty titles."

The *parda* system.

34. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 31st August 1902, says that as a rule free social intercourse cannot be established between two individuals unless their mode of living and their customs, habits, &c., are the same. This is equally true of communities, and, seeing that the views of natives with regard to *parda* are at variance with those of Europeans, it is idle to talk of intimate social relations between the two races.

Muhammadan employés in the Western Jumna Canal, Delhi.

35. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1902, publishes a communication, in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks regarding the poverty of Muhammadans in the offices connected with the Western Jumna Canal, Delhi (*vide* para. 25 of Selection No. 34), says that there is only one Muhammadan Munshi in the Deputy Collector's Office and that of the four Muhammadan candidates who passed their examinations in 1899 and 1901, none have been engaged, although all their Hindu juniors have been provided for.

36. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 28th August 1902, exhorts the public to cheerfully submit to plague inoculation, for which Government has imported a number of Doctors from England at considerable expense.

The plague.

37. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1902, observes, with regard to the inoculation by male doctors of women in the tahsils of Nawashahr and Garhshankar, that if these women really keep *parda* strictly it is matter for surprise that they should have submitted to being inoculated by strange men, as this would not be allowed even by respectable women who are not very particular about *parda*. And even if it be conceded that the women of the tahsils named are not over-particular in this respect, it does not follow that other respectable women of the Punjab will be equally complaisant. Most of the people of India in their ignorance still disbelieve in the efficacy of inoculation, and it is therefore very necessary that nothing should be left to afford them an excuse for objecting to it. The excuse of *parda* has already stood in the way of plague preventive measures; had this not been so there would have been no disturbances in connection with segregation arrangements and Government would not have been obliged to adopt new measures.

The same.

Exception is also taken to the decision that no native doctors below the rank of Assistant Surgeon will be employed, as disheartening to those men who have devoted all their energies to assisting Government in the work of inoculation. It is possible that the ignorant people of the country have no confidence in natives, but this is not the case with the intelligent and well-informed. If some natives doctors were associated with the Europeans in the work of inoculation, it would not only stop the mouths of those who are always cavilling at and misinterpreting the measures of Government, but would reward and encourage those native doctors who have already done inoculation work in other Provinces. What is chiefly required is experience and sympathy with the people. The native doctors in the Bombay Presidency have gained great experience, and natives are more likely to fulfil the other requirement.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—19-9-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th September 1902, says that the *Novoe Vremya* has published another article reiterating its previous assertion that it has now become essential for the Russian Government to establish direct relations with the Amir of Kabul. The Editor is of opinion that the fact of a semi-official paper like the *Novoe Vremya* harping on the subject is significant, and suggests the inference that the articles have been written at the instance of the Russian Foreign Office. At the same time, however, he is at a loss to understand how that office could have mustered the courage to take such a step. In 1869 Prince Gortschakoff, the then Prime Minister of Russia, assured the British Government in no uncertain terms that the Muscovite Government had nothing to do with Afghanistan and that that country was outside the sphere of Russian influence. The Prince used similar language when the Agreement of 1873 was concluded. Again, Russian statesmen did not say a word against the Agreement at the time of the appointment of the Afghan Boundary Commission. It is true that Russian officials never lose any opportunity of prejudicing the Afghans against Great Britain; but so far they have never dared to do so openly. The articles published in the *Novoe Vremya* have, therefore, taken the Editor by surprise. He can believe that Russia is capable of repudiating her engagements; but what puzzles him is that she should do so at a time when apparently she is not strong enough to abide by the consequences. On the other hand, the British Government is thoroughly prepared to defend its rights and is capable of doing so. It is possible, adds the Editor, that the death of a strong ruler like Abdur Rahman has created in the mind of the Russian Government a desire for diplomatic representation at Kabul. Or perhaps the said Government has succeeded in obtaining undue influence over the weak-minded Habib-ullah, though the latter contingency is hardly probable, for His Highness must be fully aware of the misfortune brought on Amir Sher Ali by the friendship of Russia.

(b)—*Home.*

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1902, is gratified to learn that Lord George Hamilton has withdrawn his orders *re* the charging of the expenses of the Indian Coronation guests to the revenues of this country, although his Lordship has only done so after provoking bitter criticism of the niggardliness of the British Treasury. After justifying this criticism the Editor says that the close-fisted policy of the India Office did not deter the Native Chiefs and others invited to London from making munificent presents to the King-Emperor and contributing liberally towards the Hospital Fund started by His Majesty.

The expenses of the Indian Coronation guests.

III.—Native States.

3. A correspondent of the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1902, alleges that the people of the Patiala State are greatly exercised about the recent prosecutions in connection with the Patiala plague riots. The people seem to be of opinion that the fact that the cases were not tried and disposed of at Patiala brands the State with the suspicion of weakness. The writer then suggests that Government should keep an eye on the doings of corrupt magistrates in Native States.

Patiala affairs.

4. The *Takzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1902, publishes an article from the pen of Syad Mumtaz Ali, who on the authority of the *Dar-ul-Ulum* of Delhi, states that the Raja of Nabha has great respect for every religion and convenes daily meetings of learned men belonging to different religious denominations. The writer is of opinion that native Princes and Noblemen throughout the country would do well to follow the example of His Highness and imbibe principles of religious toleration.

The Raja of Nabha.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

5. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th September 1902, publishes an account of the visit to Kabul of Sufi Ghulam Muhai-ud-din, an agent of the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islamia, Lahore, and describes how Amir Habib-ullah was led to make an annual grant of Rs. 6,000 to the Anjuman (*vide* paragraph 6 of Selections No. 37).

The Amir's grant to the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islamia, Lahore.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore) of the 6th and the *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 8th September 1902 publish paragraphs similar to the above.

The same.

7. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 10th September 1902, after publishing the history of the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islamia, Lahore, and of the institutions attached to it, praises the Amir for his gift to the Society.

The same.

8. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th September 1902, writing on the same subject, does not anticipate that Government will attach any special significance to the gift.

The same.

9. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 5th September 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer says that for a long time past Sadhu Ala Ram has been using abusive language in his speeches and writings about the Arya Samaj. Last year the Aryas of Cawnpore and Shahjehanpur instituted legal proceedings against him, but the cases were withdrawn on the Sadhu undertaking to abstain from repeating the offence (*vide* paragraph 25 of Selections No. 44 of 1901). A little more than three months ago, however, the Sadhu went to Allahabad and began to deliver lectures and issue notices and pamphlets containing the grossest abuse of the Samaj, and attacking it in every possible way. Not content with this he drew up, for the information of the local authorities, a notice preferring a charge of disloyalty against Swami Dayanand and his followers. The Arya Samajists of Allahabad did not think it worth their while to move the law against Ala Ram, but the local authorities were quick to realize that his doings were calculated to lead to a breach of the peace and began to look into the matter of their own accord, with the result that a case under section 153 of the Indian Penal Code has been instituted against the offending Sadhu. After remarking that the accused has the support of the majority of the Hindus of Allahabad and that Dharm Sabhas in other districts are said to be endeavouring to collect money to help the accused in defending himself, the writer says that Ala Ram proposes to refer to certain passages in the *Sattiarth Parkash*, &c., in support of the charge of disloyalty preferred by him against the Aryas, and that with this view he is ransacking the aforesaid books. On the other hand, the crown is represented only by a Court Inspector of Police, who cannot correctly interpret the publications named. The question is therefore of importance if the Aryas consider it worth while to refute the misleading extracts Ala Ram may quote in justification of his conduct. The writer wants to know if his co-religionists would care to be branded as disloyal in a court of law. If not, he enquires what steps are going to be taken in the matter in view of the fact that Allahabad possesses neither an Arya Pandit nor Pleader, and that the financial position of the local Samaj is not satisfactory. In conclusion, the correspondent remarks that as the result of the case is calculated to affect not only the Aryas of Allahabad, but also the entire Arya Community, the Samajes throughout the country should unite to take the matter up.

Sadhu Ala Ram and the Aryas.

10. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of Selections No. 19), says that the Bible does not bear testimony to Christ's death on the Cross and His subsequent resurrection. The fact is that Christ was taken down from the Cross alive and made over to one of His disciples, who applied a certain ointment to His wounds. After His recovery the founder of Christianity migrated to Kashmir, where He died and was buried. The Editor then endeavours to prove that Christ did not die on the Cross and that His crucifixion could not have atoned for the sins of mankind.

Jesus Christ.

11. The same paper says that on the evening of the 3rd September in reply to a question from Niaz Beg of Kalanaur, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad stated that he had rehabilitated Christ in the estimation of the world. Indeed, by disproving that

Christ and Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

Christ had died an accursed death on the Cross and been thrown into *havia* (hell), the Mirza has, so to speak, raised the founder of Christianity from among the dead. The Editor adds that "the Prophet of Kadian" has exonerated Christ and Mary from all the charges preferred against them by Muhammadans, Jews, &c.

The Mirza and the work before him.

12. The same paper in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 9 of Selections No. 37) reports that in reply to a question as to why he would not go on a pilgrimage to Mecca, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad stated that his first duty was to "kill pigs and break the Cross." He added that for the present he was engaged in the former pursuit; that he had succeeded in despatching many a pig; but that several others, which were very hard to kill, were still alive. The Editor expresses the hope that Maulvi Muhammad Husain of Batala will appreciate the Mirza's reply and let him finish the above work first.

Misuse of religious endowments in India.

13. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st September 1902, remarks that religious endowments in India are grossly mismanaged and that the persons entrusted with their management abuse their trusts in order to enrich themselves. The Editor is afraid that there is no prospect of the evil being remedied, seeing that the present religious policy of the Government of India forbids the authorities to interfere in the matter. He then describes how Government was led to adopt this policy.

Immoral practices of Mahant's in the Amritsar district.

14. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th September 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer refers to the immoral practices of certain Mahants in the Amritsar District and says that while some of these persons have mended their ways, the great majority of them still remain unmoved. He would therefore request Government to depute an official to keep an eye on the doings of all Mahants in the Amritsar District and appoint clerks to keep the accounts of the jagirs enjoyed by the Mahants. The writer then alleges that the Ramgarhian Katra is becoming a favourite resort of the Mahants, who build or rent houses in that quarter of the city for the purpose of indulging their immoral propensities undisturbed. He adds that the Mahant of Ramdas has recently bought a house in the Katra for Rs. 2,300 with the same object.

Golden Temple affairs.

15. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer repeats the Editor's objections to the appointment of Sant Ram as Munshi to the Manager of the Golden Temple (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections No. 37). The correspondent adds that it is the incompetency of the Manager, and not any perversity on the part of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*, which is responsible for the affairs of the temple being thus publicly discussed. He also insinuates that Sardar Arur Singh, the new Manager, eats opium.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

16. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th September 1902, says that various Provincial Committees are busy collecting the necessary information for the Police Commission. The Punjab Committee recently examined several witnesses at

Lahore, Ferozepore and Rawalpindi. The nature of the evidence tendered has not transpired, but the Editor is surprised to learn that of the witnesses examined, zamindars, who have most to do with the Police, and are therefore best informed about the doings of the guardians of the peace, formed only a very small minority.

17. The *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 6th September 1902, writing about the Police Commission, refers to the duties of the Police and their relations with the public. The Editor is of opinion that the Police should try to please the people rather than Government, and that their duty consists in affording protection to the general public and not abetting wrong-doers. He therefore suggests that the witnesses examined by the Commission should lay stress on the desirability of recruiting the Police force from among the sections of the population noted for their good morals and religious training and which value the Commandments of God above the orders of Magistrates, or they should urge the making of satisfactory arrangements for the moral and religious instruction of the men enlisted in the Police.

The same.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

18. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1902, says that the *Punjab Intelligencer* of Amritsar has been laying great stress on the desirability of instituting inquiries into certain charges which are being openly made against the Secretary to the local Municipality. These charges are of such a nature that both the Municipality and Government should look into them and order a Judicial investigation. It is possible that Mr. Gardener may not think it worth his while to notice the accusations, but things have come to such a pass that it has become incumbent on him to establish his innocence in a court of law. The Editor adds that the charges the *Ahluwalia Gazette* and the *Haq Pasand* have laid at the door of the Secretary are of so serious and shameful a nature that it would be unwise to overlook them: indeed, this would bring discredit on both the Secretary and his employers. He further remarks that signs are not wanting to show that matters cannot rest where they are at present and that unlooked for revelations are likely to be made.

Mr. Gardener, Secretary to the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

19. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th September 1902, takes the *Shokh* to task for supporting Mr. Gardener and running down the local Rate-Payers' Association. After remarking that the print named is subsidised by the Secretary, the Editor advises it to give up the vain task of defending Mr. Gardener, and challenges it to refute the charges made against the Secretary in the columns of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*.

The same.

20. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 6th September 1902, says that, contrary to the usual practice, the Cantonment Magistrate of Rawalpindi has ordered that in future house-tax should be realised for all houses, occupied as well as unoccupied, the amounts collected for the latter

A complaint in connection with the recovery of house-tax in the Rawalpindi Cantonment.

being refunded afterwards on the application of the proprietors. This, observes the Editor, is causing great inconvenience to the people, especially to poor proprietors, widows, orphans, etc., who have to waste their time and spend money before getting the refund. It is therefore to be hoped that the Cantonment Magistrate will revoke the orders complained against.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

21. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 8th September 1902, after reporting that meetings condemning the recommendations of the Universities Commission have been held in Calcutta and other places, says that the conviction is gaining ground that the said recommendations, if carried into effect, will make high education unattainable in India. This, adds the Editor, is looked upon by the people as a great national calamity. He therefore expresses the hope that educated natives throughout the country will unite to persuade Government not to accept the recommendations of the Commission.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A suggestion to construct a railway between Bhera and the town to be founded on the Jhelum Canal.

22. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in a supplement dated the 5th September 1902, says that the residents of the Shahpur District, as also those of the districts which have intercourse with Shahpur and are likely to have similar relations with the town to be founded on the Jhelum Canal, are anxious that a railway line should be constructed between Bhera and Shahpur and extended to the proposed town. The Editor adds that the passenger and goods traffic in the *ilaqa* is sufficient to warrant the construction of the suggested railway, and that the tract through which the line will run being quite level and intersected by only a few small *nullahs*, the carrying out of the suggestion will not be impracticable or very costly. He further remarks that the proposed railway could be used for carrying transport animals to the frontier in time of war.

(g)—Postal matters.

The Pindi Bhattian Post Office in the Gujranwala District.

23. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 8th September 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that the residents of Pindi Bhattian, Gujranwala District, are put to great inconvenience owing to the local Post Office being located in the upper story of a house. He also says that the letter box erected in the place is in a dilapidated condition, with the result that letters are sometimes lost. The writer calls upon the Post Master-General to look into the matter.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Delhi Darbar.

24. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th September 1902, says that the Delhi Darbar will be gratefully remembered by the natives of India if Government is pleased to extend to them the privilege of Volunteering in commemoration of that auspicious occasion. The Editor further suggests that Government should make the Darbar a landmark in the history of India by ordering that

in the more serious criminal cases natives should have the right to claim to be tried by juries. If this cannot be done, every criminal case of importance should be ordered to be tried by a bench consisting of two Judges instead of by a Naib Tahsildar or a junior Civilian.

The plague.

25. The same paper says that officers selected for plague duty should be extremely gentle, polite and sympathetic, and that in the enforcement of plague measures they should be careful to avoid all chances of friction between the people and Government, for the only object of the authorities in combating the epidemic is to save life.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th and 15th September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	12,007	2	5
Sheikh Abdul Wahid, son of Sheikh Khuda Bakhsh, Safid Bazar, Amritsar ...	80	0	0
Small subscriptions	32	3	0
Total ...	12,119	5	5

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 12th September 1902...	2,423	0	4
Small subscriptions	194	8	0
Total ...	2,617	8	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	9,070	10	2

(b)—*Home.*

The expenses of the Indian Coronation guests.

3. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 12th September 1902, after remarking that the Secretary of State has at last decided to charge to the Imperial Exchequer the expenses of the Indian Coronation guests, says that a quarter of the money spent by the guests in subscribing towards various funds started in England and making presents to the King-Emperor would have covered their expenses. The Editor adds that on the occasion of marriages zamindars spend about four annas per head in the entertainment of their guests, but recover from them from Rs. 5 to Rs. 7 in the shape of *tambol*. It was only this practice which in the first instance Government had decided to follow.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghanistan affairs.

4. The same paper says that Russian designs against this country are more than a century old. In order to frustrate these designs the British Government placed on the throne of Kabul a man whose friendship had allayed its fears in regard to a Muscovite invasion of India. The death of Abdur Rahman, however, has wrought a change in the feelings of Russia, and Russian newspapers are urging their Government to compel Habib-ullah to conclude a special agreement with it. So far, however, His Highness has shown himself to be a wise ruler, and if he considers it to his interest to maintain friendly relations with the Powers named he will also, like his deceased father, follow a hypocritical policy and fleece both. Otherwise a single false step on his part would result in the partition of his kingdom between Russia and England.

III.—Native States.

Bahawalpur affairs.

5. A correspondent of the *Vakil* (Amritsar), dated the 12th September 1902, after remarking that the young Nawab of Bahawalpur is an able administrator and is introducing reforms in every department of the State service, alleges that the *rubakar* recently issued by His Highness regarding the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the State service merely repeats Colonel Grey's orders on the subject. Besides, it only directs heads of departments to employ Hindus and Muhammadans in public offices in proportion to their respective numbers. At present Hindu officials are all-powerful in the State, and their Moslem *confreres* are having a very bad time of it. No lover of justice therefore can endorse the remark that in issuing the *rubakar* the Nawab was influenced by religious prejudices. Indeed, His Highness is so free from bigotry that almost all the well-paid appointments on his private staff are held by Hindus, while the incumbents thereof always receive considerate treatment at his hands.

Suket affairs.

6. The *Akluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th September 1902, says that the Raja of Suket has taken advantage of the absence of Mr. Anderson to obtain permission to appoint Seth Puran Mal as His Highness' Minister. After remarking that when the Seth was Financial Adviser to Dusht Nikandan Sain several women of lose character were discovered in his house, the Editor alleges that

the ruler of Suket intends using this man as a tool in securing possession of the house of His Highness' exiled uncle, Mian Jowala Singh. The Mian was expelled the State 19 years ago on the strength of certain false charges preferred against him by his nephew, and his jagir was confiscated. But not content with this the Raja has instigated one Mani Ram to institute a suit for Rs. 500 against the Mian in the Court of Puran Mal from whom the exile will receive but scant justice.

The paper also asks the *Punjab Samachar* and the *Hamdard-i-Hind* to explain why the Raja of Suket, on whose behalf they have taken up the cudgels, has not been invited to the Delhi Darbar. The Editor adds that Government was not likely to attach greater weight to writings in irresponsible prints than to the reports of its officials.

The Bombay Government and the return of certain Maharajas from England.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, alleges that when on their return from England the Maharajas of Gwalior, Bikaner, Kohlapur and Idar landed at Bombay, no official reception was accorded them. The incident, adds the writer, has taken native society by surprise and is being unfavourably commented on. The newspapers published in Bombay have also written very strongly on the subject; and one of them has observed that if it was impossible for the Governor or any of His Excellency's Secretaries to go to receive the Maharajas, at least the Police Commissioner ought to have been sent for the purpose.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mismanagement of religious endowments in India.

8. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 38), complains that since the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857 the management of religious endowments in India has gone from bad to worse and that the general public is loud in its complaints against the managers. After alleging that the present condition of the Fatehpuri Mosque at Delhi is disgraceful in the extreme, the Editor suggests that the public should be given a hand in the management of the said endowments and that the wishes of the people should be consulted in selecting members for committees appointed to manage the same. Again, these committees should be required to publish yearly or half yearly statements of accounts. The Editor is also of opinion that the election of new members for the bodies in question should not take place except with the permission of Deputy Commissioners, who should also have the power to remove incompetent or dishonest members.

VI.—Legislation.

The Land Alienation Act.

9. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th September 1902, says that the first report issued by the Local Government on the working of the Land Alienation Act covers a period of only three months, and that consequently the experience gained during this time cannot help in the forming of a definite opinion as to the nature of the effects likely to follow the Act. Nevertheless, it is impossible to take exception to the expectations expressed in the Report that the Act will

have the effect of reducing litigation and lessening extravagance amongst zamindars. The Editor then warns the authorities against placing faith in exaggerated accounts regarding the troubles of agriculturists emanating from persons favourably disposed towards the opposers of the Act.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

Grievances of members of Judicial *amlas*.

10. The *Suraj* (Ambala), of the 15th September 1902, says that formerly members of the *amla* of a court could gradually rise to be Extra Assistant Commissioners. The late Colonel Wace, however, who was partial to Revenue officials, reversed the practice and reserved such appointments for these officials. And things have now come to such a pass that even Superintendentships of the Vernacular Offices of Deputy Commissioners are being given to subordinate Revenue officials. It would appear that in future Readers for subordinate courts are also to be selected from among these lucky public servants. In support of this assertion the Editor alleges that Kanungos Gopal Das, Chandu Lal and Bahar Shah in the Ambala District have been appointed Readers. This state of affairs, he adds, has thoroughly disheartened the Judicial *amla*. The evil is likely to deter able and competent men from entering the subordinate Judicial service.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

Complaint against the Municipal Secretary and the Octroi Tahsildar, Amritsar.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th September 1902, alleges that Mr. Gardener has brought about the resignation of Mr. Nichol (Assistant Secretary), Mr. De Costa (Store-keeper), Narain Singh, (Sub-Overseer), and Hakam Singh (Mistri) to enable certain of his favourites to carry on their peculations unhindered. The Editor promises to show later on how Dhanpat Rai (Overseer), and Ganeshi Lal (Muharrir) have, during Mr. Gardener's time, managed to acquire property out of all proportion to their small salaries. He says that Mr. Nichol is an honest, able and experienced official, and that the Municipality would do well not to dispense with his services. He also alleges that the present Octroi Tahsildar, Amritsar, was originally a servant of the Allahabad Municipality, but that having been involved in a defalcation case he was dismissed the service. His conduct at Amritsar is not above suspicion. Hundreds of complaints have been received against him, while thousands of rupees belonging to the Octroi Department are being embezzled. The Editor concludes by quoting alleged instances in support of the latter allegation.

The sanitation of Bhera.

12. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), in its supplement, dated the 12th September 1902, alleges that Bhera is in an insanitary condition and that if something is not done to improve the state of the lanes and bazars an outbreak of plague is possible.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

13. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 26th September 1902 says :—

"The following criticism of the Report of the Education Commission by the Editor of the *Makhzan-i-Masihi* is so just and to the point that we reproduce it for the

benefit of our readers. Every friend of private and aided schools should let their voices be heard. The *Makhzan-i-Masihi* says :—

'The Report of the University Commission is sure to call forth earnest protest from some of the oldest and best friends of education in India. The Report encourages the Director of Public Instruction in each Province to kill off as quickly as possible the colleges which have sprung out of the heart of the people, born of patriotism, race pride, local attachments, religious zeal, &c, unless indeed these colleges can show in their infancy the strength and perfection of age. The Report says, not in words, perhaps but in spirit : 'We want no more colleges struggling for life, however dear that little flickering life may be to those who have put their hearts into it and are striving to strengthen and perfect it ; we care not for the wishes of the philanthropic and religious bodies anxious to found and maintain colleges of their own. We discourage your efforts, unless from the start you can show as large a staff and profuse expenditure as a Government College.' The young College is now to be forced to fix the minimum fee so high that some of those for whose benefit it was founded cannot pay the fee. These young and independent colleges are now to be worried by visits of the Inspector or Director that he may report whether they have fallen below the affiliation standard, although the college may not be receiving a *kauri* of public money, trusting for its support to the self-sacrificing service of its Professors and the benevolence of its friends. Would the Forman Christian College, Lahore, or the Muhammadan College, Aligarh, have survived such handling the year of their founding or for several years after ? Those of us who know how the great colleges in America, Harvard, Yale*, Princeton, and a score more, began on a small scale, without a penny of State aid, how they struggled for existence their first years, maintained wholly by private funds and enterprise even as they are to-day, are amazed at the proposal of the Commission, which, stripped of words, means death to private effort. Is it fair or wise to put into the hands of the Director of Public Instruction the power to crush young colleges which are neither receiving nor asking aid from Government ? We had thought that the policy of Government was to encourage private effort, and so build up institutions which would enable Government gradually to reduce its expenditure on higher education. The Report just issued does not proclaim any change of this policy, but he who runs can read between the lines that a radical change is now proposed, and that inimical to colleges founded by private effort, unless at the time they ask for affiliation with the University they can make a show of a strong staff and abundant resources, and the judge of these is to be the Director of Public Instruction, for on his favourable report the affiliation is allowed and continued from year to year. Against this there would be little objection were the college asking or drawing aid from Government, but the Report goes far beyond this and says even to a college refusing financial aid from Government : 'You must charge all your students a certain minimum fee. You must show to the satisfaction of the Director that another college is needed in the community. You must have ample buildings, a strong staff of teachers and large resources to show at once, and then we will consider whether we will allow you to live and breathe the University atmosphere for one year, and our Educational

* It may add weight to this testimony to say that the writer received the degree of B. A. from Yale thirty-six years ago and his residence in India dates back more than thirty years.

Doctor, whenever he likes, will examine your lungs and limbs with a view to strangling you to death if he thinks you are not growing strong fast enough." The Director is not in a position to put the right value on the influence of a Professor who is known by his pupils to be doing double work on half the salary he could command in another sphere. The touch of such a life day by day is worth more to the young men of India than a hundred moral text-books. President Garfield said that the best College in America was a log with Mark Hopkins at one end and a student at the other. It is the College born it may be of benevolence or race pride or religious zeal which can command the services of such men. To discourage the founding of such colleges, or to harrass them to death when they ask no aid of favour of any kind from Government save the privilege of sending their students to compete for the University degrees, is a policy which we cannot believe our broad-minded and far-seeing Viceroy will approve. We appeal to him for a reversal of this policy, and we appeal with the greater hope because of his knowledge of the great American colleges which a century and more ago were struggling into life, sustained then by the loyalty and enthusiasm of only a few friends, but now receiving every year gift by the lakhs. And so it will be in India. The benevolent and religious people will in time back these young colleges as they never will Government Institutions, and the result will be that in less than a hundred years Government may well hand over higher education to the people and turn its funds into other channels.'"

The coming Middle School Examination.

14. A Delhi correspondent of the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 22nd September 1902, says that according to the rules in force the coming Middle School Examination of the Punjab University should commence on the 5th January next. Public holidays in connection with the Proclamation Darbar extend up to the 8th idem, and the bustle at Delhi connected with the assemblage will not subside before the 15th. The writer also points out that no suitable building for the examination at Delhi will be available during the Darbar. He therefore suggests that the examination should be postponed to the 19th January.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the zamindars.

15. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1902, publishes a communication from Mirza Sultan Ahmad, Extra Assistant Commissioner, Sirsa, who in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 17 of Selections No. 36), says that there can be no doubt that the Punjab Land Alienation Act has prevented the dissolution of the agricultural community in the Provinces. The prosperity of the zamindars, however, depends upon their acquiring frugal habits, for their present extravagance is dragging them down day by day. The writer then dwells on the advantages of Agricultural Banks and remarks that very useful results could be obtained by making *takavi* advances on a large scale, especially for purposes of irrigation. He adds that private banks would willingly advance money to zamindars provided Government stood surety. After remarking that at present agriculturists are not in a position to start their own banks, Sultan Ahmad urges Government to introduce reforms in Zamindari Schools, and adds that the students of these institutions should be given employment in the Revenue Department.

(k)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

16. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 18th September 1902, bears testimony to the beneficial character of inoculation, remarking that it serves as a preventive against plague. The Editor then exhorts the people to have themselves inoculated and to perform *havans* in their houses as the only way of escaping the epidemic. He also praises Mr. Atkins, Deputy Commissioner of Lahore, for his earnestness in combating the disease and improving the sanitation of the city.

The same.

17. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th September 1902, writing on the same subject, bears similar testimony and dwells on the advantages of inoculation. The Editor then points out that it is mostly women who spread the infection by mixing with plague patients, and suggests that members of the female sex should be inoculated in their homes, and in the presence of neighbouring native gentlemen, instead of being summoned to hospitals for the purpose.

The Delhi Darbar.

18. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th September 1902, after publishing the programme of the forthcoming Darbar, remarks that the people of this country are very anxious to know the purport of the message from the King-Emperor which is to be read on the occasion. If they are granted the concessions to which they are entitled and for which not a few just Governors-General and their Lieutenants have recommended them, they should consider themselves very fortunate. If, however, the message merely contains commonplaces it can afford them but passing pleasure, for lasting satisfaction is possible only if they are granted concessions which would raise their position as a nation.

The same.

19. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th September 1902, reprints the above.

The same.

20. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th September 1902, after publishing the names of the Punjab gentlemen invited to the Delhi Darbar, says that the list is a very short one. And if the guests from other Provinces have been selected on the same scale barely a thousand Darbaris will be present at the assemblage—a number hardly in keeping with the importance of the occasion. The Editor adds that the names of several persons who were entitled to invitations are not to be found in the list. He then remarks that the fact of Khan Bahadur Barkat Ali Khan (of Lahore) and Maulvi Nazir Ahmad and Hakim Vasil Khan (of Delhi) not having been invited is very surprising. He is also at a loss to understand why no Hindu or Muhammadan of Amritsar has been honoured with an invitation, all the four gentlemen invited from that city being Sikhs. The Editor expresses the hope that Government will reconsider the matter.

The same.

21. The same paper says that the names of Turkey's representative is not to be found in the list of Foreign Consuls invited to the Darbar. Most probably the omission is due to the fact of the last Turkish Consul in Bombay having died recently and his successor not having joined. It should, however, be borne in mind, says the Editor, that on occasions like this invitations are issued not

to particular individuals but to holders of particular appointments. He then adds that at present the relations between England and Turkey are dicidedly friendly.

The same.

22. The same paper says that the Madras Government has issued a notice to the effect that persons not invited to the Darbar but desirous of visiting Delhi during the first week of January and of obtaining admission tickets to the Darbar Hall should send in their applications to the Chief Secretary by the 1st October 1902. The Editor suggests that other Local Governments should follow this example, so that persons of the above description may not experience difficulty in obtaining tickets. He is also of opinion that the Punjab Government should move in the matter without delay, as a large number of visitors from the Punjab are likely to flock to Delhi on the occasion.

The same.

23. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1902, is surprised to see that the names of the Rajas of Suket, Punch, Faridkot, and Bilaspur are not included in the list of *Raises* invited to the Darbar. These omissions are the more noteworthy when it is remembered that ordinary Rai Bahadurs and Khan Bahadurs have been honoured with invitations. The Editor then mentions the names of certain dignitaries and officials of some other Native States and suggests that these also should be invited and have titles of honour conferred on them.

The same.

24. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th September 1902, says that in one of its recent issues it was remarked that the Viceroy's proposal to appoint sons of Native Chiefs as pages of honour to His Excellency at the Delhi Darbar had not been received with favour by the people. The *Civil and Military Gazette* and the *Pioneer* have published paragraphs on the subject, and in the course of their remarks find fault with native newspapers for representing that the proposal in question runs counter to the feelings of Indian Princes. The Anglo-Indian dailies named add that the appointment of page is a high honour and is only conferred upon scions of the noblest families. The Editor would like to point out that although this may be true from the point of view of a European, the people of India are unable to appreciate the honour; and that in these circumstances it would be impolitic to carry the proposal into effect.

The same.

25. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th September 1902, approves of Lord Curzon's proposal to appoint the sons of a few Native Chiefs to act as pages of honour to His Excellency on the occasion of the Darbar. The Editor adds that the presence of these pages at the assemblage will bear witness to the grandeur of the British Empire. Indeed, at present Great Britain is the greatest power in the world; and it is her just rule which has won her this position and secured for her the respect of all classes of her subjects.

The same.

26. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th September 1902, says that the Government resolution on the subject of the coming Delhi Darbar directs that so far as possible rejoicings held in the country on that occasion should be of a

universal character so as to enable the poor to participate in them. This shows that Government treats both the rich and the poor alike. But it is to be regretted that certain conceited natives consider it beneath their dignity to follow in the footsteps of their rulers. The Editor says that on the 9th ultimo the Sialkot Municipality held a meeting to arrange for the celebration of the Coronation, and that it will surprise the public to learn that several local *Raises*, Pleaders, and Editors were not invited to the meeting. Also that certain other gentlemen who from motives of loyalty attended the gathering uninvited were insulted and made to vacate their chairs. After expressing a fear lest the scene should be re-enacted in connection with the festivities to be observed in January next, the Editor alleges that members of the Sialkot Municipality are divided into parties, and that consequently they should be given no hand in issuing invitations on the said occasion. The work should be entrusted to a committee consisting of the Deputy Commissioner, the District Judge, the senior Extra Assistant Commissioner, the Tahsildar and the Municipal Secretary.

Preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal Circle.

27. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1902, says that the complaints published in its columns regarding the preponderance of Hindu employés in the Western Jumna Canal Circle (*vide* paragraph 35 of Selections No. 37) have borne fruit, and that the Superintending Engineer has ordered the preparation of a statement showing the number of Hindus and Muhammadans employed in the Circle. It is possible that the names of chaprasis and Patwaris may be included in the list and it may be sought to be shown that Hindus and Muhammadans are employed in equal numbers. The Editor, however, feels confident that some good will come of the Superintending Engineer's orders.

The same.

28. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1902, publishes a communication on the same subject, in which the writer endeavours to refute the allegations made in the *Watan* of the 15th August last (*vide* paragraph 25 of Selections No. 34). He asserts that notwithstanding the fact that the Hindus residing in the Delhi Division are more numerous and better educated than the Muhammadans, yet of the 174 posts in the Circle only 44 are held by them. The writer is also at a loss to understand why the *Watan's* correspondent should take exception to the incumbents of the posts of Head Munshi and Deputy Collector being Hindus. Does he mean to suggest that these appointments should never be held by Hindus? There is no truth in the allegation that the relations of the said officials are *abkars* in the Circle. The Head Munshi is a Kayastha, and it is a fact that his caste-fellows have nothing to do with agriculture. The same assertion holds good in the case of the relations of the present Deputy Collector.

The proposed memorial to John Nicholson.

29. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th September 1902, says that the London *Punch* twits Government for the delay which has taken place in raising a memorial to John Nicholson. The Editor of that paper should, however, understand that the delay was not due to any indifference on the part of Government, but that in postponing the erection of the memorial the authorities were actuated by a desire of avoiding reviving bitter memories connected with the Sepoy Mutiny.

30. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore) of the 13th September 1902, reviews the "Mysteries of Lucknow" (price annas eight) written by one Munshi Muhammad Asgar Ali and published by Sheikhs Muhammad Habibah and Fazal Hussain, booksellers, and says that the publication of such books ought to be stopped. The Editor says that the incidents related in such compositions are generally the reverse of edifying and serve no useful purpose.

Objectionable publications.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—2-10-02—70.

[Confidential]

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[Aug. 27,]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

PAPERS

PRESENTED TO

PARLIAMENT

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1901.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune	Lahore	Mal Chand	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer	Lahore	Abdul Rashid	1,100 copies.
3	Punjab Times	Rawalpindi	Narain Das	800 „
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger	Lahore	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
5	Akhbar-i-'Am	Lahore	Govind Sahai	2,500 copies.
6	Victoria Paper	Sialkot	Gian Chand	600 „
	WEEKLY.			
7	Ahluwalia Gazette	Amritsar	Balwant Rai	400 copies.
8	Alhakam	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali	350 „
9	Arya Gazette	Lahore	Atma Ram	500 „
10	Chaudhwin Sadi	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 „
11	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,400 „
12	Gurzon Gazette	Delhi	Mirza Hairat	3,500 „
13	Dehati Gazette	Lahore	Abdul Ghani	...
14	Dost-i-Hind	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	500 copies.
15	Ghaus Khar-i-Hind	Lahore	Pandit Data Kishen ...	2450 „
16	Gulzar-i-Hind	Do.	Gulzar Muhammad ...	900 „

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1908—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
17	Hamdard-i-Hind	Lahore	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	3,250 copies.
18	Kapurthala Akbbar	Kapurthala... ...	Prag Narain... ...	150 "
19	Khair Khah-i-Alam	Delhi	Mir Hassan	300 "
20	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do.	Maha Narain	300 "
21	Koh-i-Nur	Lahore	Ilahi Bakhsh	100 "
22	Lahore Punch	Do.	Abdul Rahman ...	200 "
23	Nur Afshan	Ludhiana	M. Wylie	500 "
24	Paisa Akhbar	Lahore	Mahbub 'Alam ...	18,000 "
25	Patiala Akhbar	Patiala	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 "
26	Police Advocate	Lahore	Sardar Bishen Singh ...	500 "
27	Public Gazette	Amritsar	Jai Chand	650 "
28	Punjab Organ	Sialkot	Brij Lal	300 "
29	Punjab Samachar	Lahore	Pohlo Mal	3,500 "
30	Rafiq-i-Hind	Do.	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	400 "
31	Sada-i-Hind	Do.	Din Muhammad ...	200 "
32	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar	Bahawalpur... ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddus ...	350 "
33	Sat Dharm Parchartk ...	Jullundur City ...	Munshi Ram	1,015 "
34	Shamim-i-Hind	Do. ...	Shiv Narayan	175 "
35	Sialkot Paper	Sialkot	Todar Mal	650 "
36	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar	Arjan Singh	250 "
37	Sirajul-Akhbar	Jhelum	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 "
38	Suraj	Ambala	Suraj Bal	510 "

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1902—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
39	Taj-ul-Akhbar	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram	350 copies.
40	Tahaib-i-Niswan	Lahore	Mumtaz Ali	240 „
41	Vakil	Amritsar	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,500 „
42	Vakil-i-Hind	Delhi	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,419 „
43	Wafadar	Lahore	Fazal-ud-din	500 „
44	Watan	Do.	Karm Bakhsh ..	2,000 „
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
45	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar	Delhi	Muhammad Mirza Khan ...	50 copies.
46	Shokh	Amritsar	Karm Ilahi ...	525 „
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
47	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore	Pandit Gopi Nath ...	700 copies.
	MONTHLY.			
48	Anwar-ul-Islam	Sialkot	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 copies.
49	Arya Musafir Magazine ...	Jullundur	Munshi Ram	700 „
50	Bharat Partap	Jhajjar	Bishambar Dial ...	500 „
51	Mufid-i-'Am Gazette	Sialkot	Karim Bakhsh ...	300 „
52	Taraqqi	Lahore	Punjab Religious Book Society.	500 „
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
53	Punjab Theosophist	Lahore	Lal Man	300 copies.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 40.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 4th October 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway and Indian Muhammadans.

1. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 19th September 1902, publishes a communication over the signature of "A preacher," who says that Muhammadans are doing their utmost to collect funds for the proposed Hedjaz Railway. It is, however, a matter of surprise to him that the Turkish Government should have had to resort to begging to find money for the construction of the Railway in question. He then goes on to say that the Musalmans of India are always ready to render pecuniary help to their Caliph, but that they cannot spare a single pice for their famine-stricken fellow-countrymen. He says in this connection that in one of its recent issues the Sialkot organ of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's mission (the *Anwar-ul-Islam*) announces that the Sultan has had to borrow Rs. 1,50,00,000, and exhorts Indian Muhammadans to lend His Majesty a helping hand on the pain of forfeiting the respect of other nations. The writer is, however, of opinion that if the followers of Islam in this country have any sense of self-respect or sympathy for human suffering, they should first attend to the wants of the destitute in their own midst. He then reproduces from the *Punjab Samachar* a paragraph describing the sufferings of the famine-stricken in Rajputana and certain other parts of India, and calls upon the anti-Christian and unphilanthropic Aryas and Musalmans, especially the Mirza's followers and the supporters of the Hedjaz Railway, to do something to afford relief to the unfortunate people in question.

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	12,119	5	5
Small subscriptions	46	14	0
Total ...	12,166	3	5

III.—Native States.

Suket affairs.

3. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, refers to the circumstances under which Mian Janmejai, who has of late been running down Raja Dusht Nikandan Sen in newspapers, was expelled from Suket. The Editor adds that this punishment was awarded to the Mian owing to his notoriously bad character, and that consequently the Raja was justified in stopping the allowance of this son of a slave girl. He then goes on to say that it is wrong to assert that the subjects of the Suket State are leading an unhappy or discontented life. He also endeavours to show that the relations between Dusht Nikandan Sen and the heir-apparent have always been all that could be desired, and that the former has never treated the latter harshly.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Congress delegates *versus* the Indian Coronation guests.

4. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 19th September 1902, says that all the Native Chiefs and Raises who attended the King-Emperor's Coronation in London were selected by Government, the people having had no voice in the selection. There can, therefore, be no doubt that they had no right to do anything in the name of the people of India. In the address, however, which they presented to His Majesty they posed as the representatives of the millions of this country. The Editor says that the authorities and Anglo-Indians generally are in the habit of laughing at the Congress delegates for arrogating to themselves a representative position. If, however, the Indian Coronation guests could call themselves the representatives of their fellow-countrymen, there is no reason why the Congress delegates should not do so. In conclusion, the Editor finds fault with the conduct of both parties in claiming to speak in the name of the entire population of India.

Mismanagement of religious endowments in India.

5. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 8 of Selections No. 39), describes how in 1863 the Government of India was led to give up the management of religious endowments. After remarking that it has not since changed its policy in this respect, the Editor says that in the following year Government ceased interfering in the people's other religious affairs also, and perhaps deluded itself into the belief that it had established perfect religious freedom in India. This is, however, far from being the case. Providence has brought Islam and Christianity face to face in a large idolatrous country like India, and the two faiths have been contending with each other in the attempt to demolish the oldest form of heathenism extant (Hinduism), while Government is playing the part of a silent looker-on, its sole care being to improve the administration and promote the welfare of its subjects. In the course of his remarks the Editor also observes that of all the religious sects in India Muhammadans are the strongest and that they derive their strength from the union existing amongst them. He then discusses the question whether a Government is justified in devoting a part of its revenues to the support of religion, and alleges that of the innovations introduced by Government in the country none is so disliked by the people as its policy of non-interference in their religious affairs.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

Grievances of Sub-Inspectors of Police in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh.

6. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1902 understands that Sub-Inspectors of Police in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh experience great difficulty in obtaining privilege leave. Many of these officials are not allowed to go on leave for years together, their applications for the same being rejected on some pretext or another. District Superintendents of Police, who have the power to grant such leave, can decline to do so for no reason whatever. The Editor therefore requests the Inspector-General of Police to direct District Superintendents to be more liberal in the matter of granting privilege leave to Sub-Inspectors of Police.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

A complaint in connection with the recovery of house-tax in the Rawalpindi Cantonment.

7. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 20th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 20 of Selections No, 38) complains that so far the Cantonment Magistrate has done nothing to reverse the new and troublesome method of recovering house-tax in the Rawalpindi Cantonment. He declines to move in the matter on the ground that it is his Assistant's concern and that he does not like to interfere in the latter's work. The Editor then goes on to say that since he wrote last on the subject matters have gone from bad to worse. The Assistant Cantonment Magistrate has now passed orders to the effect that in future the tax should be realized in advance and that every one failing to pay in the same by the 10th of a month shall have to pay a penalty of four annas a day. These orders have taken the Editor by surprise, and he is curious to know if the proposed penalty will be recovered from the owners of houses of which the monthly rental is about eight annas and the house-tax two and-a-half pice. After alleging that he has received several complaints on the subject and promising to publish the same later on, he suggests that the new orders regarding the recovery of the tax should be reconsidered.

(d)—Education.

The Universities Commission.

8. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 19th September 1902, says that the recommendations of the Universities Commission are certain to injure educational institutions which go by the name of "National Colleges," and the Managers of which, by charging low rates of tuition fees, succeed in collecting a large number of students and employ incompetent Professors to teach the boys. The Editor adds that it is very easy to say that education should be imparted gratis, &c., &c ; but at the same time it is important that the teachers employed for the purpose should be able and competent men. Indeed, it is far better that sound education should be imparted to a few young men than that a very large number should pass through an inadequate course of instruction. The Editor then remarks that Government ought to have no objection to the authorities of a college charging no tuition fees provided the funds at their disposal admit of the employment of competent Professors. He adds that any particular class of natives desirous of starting their own educational institutions in order to further some special end should shake themselves free of Government rules and make their own arrangements.

9. A correspondent of the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, writing on the same subject, takes exception to the Commission's recommendation that Universities should be under the control of Government, and says that this is calculated to hamper the cause of education in India and create estrangement between the rulers and the ruled. He is also unable to endorse the suggestion that the number of University Fellows should be a fixed one, and is of opinion that greater elasticity should be permitted in this respect. The writer then expresses his disapproval of the recommendations relating to the fixing of a minimum rate of fees for colleges, remarking that the step is likely to prevent poor students from receiving higher education. He would not empower the Senate of a University to remove from its register of graduates the name of any one convicted of an offence. Again, he sees no necessity for the recommendation requiring Directors of Public Instruction to submit reports on the financial condition of colleges, remarking that the institutions which have not sufficient funds at their command cease to exist of themselves. The suggestion regarding colleges being located in decent and suitable buildings also appears to him to be uncalled for. In conclusion, the correspondent takes exception to the recommendations forbidding the transfer of students from one college to another and those tending to bring about the abolition of Second Grade Colleges.

The same.

10. Commenting on the above the Editor says that he cannot endorse all that the writer says. Nevertheless he is of opinion that some of the Commission's recommendations are calculated to damage the cause of education in India, and calls upon all sections of the population to unite in bringing the matter to the notice of Government. After remarking that Muhammadans would be the greatest sufferers by the proposed changes, he regrets that so far his co-religionists should have done very little to avert the danger. It is true that the Prophet's followers in Calcutta recently held a meeting to protest against some of the recommendations of the Commission; but this is hardly sufficient to gain the end in view. It is therefore very desirable that the Muhammadans of Northern India, who form the majority of the Musalman population, should hold similar meetings.

The same.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd September 1902, states that the Delhi centre candidates for the ensuing Middle School Examination which will be held in the beginning of January next will not be able to take part in the festivities to be held in connection with the Darbar. The Editor therefore suggests that the examination should be held either in December, or in February or March along with the Arts Examinations.

The ensuing Middle School Examination of the Punjab University.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, publishes a communication from Sultan Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 15 of Selections No. 39)

Government and the *zamindary*.

says that although the Land Alienation Act has prevented the *zamindars* from selling or mortgaging their lands, it cannot relieve them of the necessity for borrowing money. It is to enable them to obtain money for their requirements that Government proposes to establish agricultural banks in the country. The writer has nothing but praise for the proposal; but at the same time he is of opinion that if funds like those started by Messrs. Maclagan and Crosthwaite in the Shujabad Tahsil were formed along with the banks, the attainment of the object in view would be greatly facilitated. He adds that the project can be inaugurated only if the *zamindars* move in the matter of their own accord or if Government takes some steps in this direction.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

13. The *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 20th September 1902, reprints the contents of a pamphlet issued by one Ilahi Bakhsh, *Nasir*, formerly Editor of the *Koh-i-Nur* (Lahore), with the object of allaying popular misapprehensions in connection with plague inoculation. The writer begins by referring to the havoc wrought by the plague in India and by giving a sketch of the Local Government's scheme regarding universal inoculation in the Punjab. After impressing on the minds of the people that Government's efforts to combat the plague have for their sole object the saving of human life, he dwells on the advantages of inoculation. He adds that there is no truth in the assertion that the authorities have hit upon inoculation as a means of killing off His Majesty's native subjects, and exhorts his fellow-countrymen to place no credence in such mischievous rumours. He further states that everybody is free to have himself inoculated or not, and says that all loyal natives should co-operate with the authorities in stamping out plague.

The same.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 37 of Selections No. 37) praises the Punjab Government for its inoculation scheme, and says that the authorities have done well in forbidding the use of force in connection with the same. After remarking that educated and advanced Punjabis alone can allay popular misapprehensions regarding inoculation, the Editor calls upon the said gentlemen to hold meetings for the purpose and set an example to their less enlightened neighbours by getting themselves inoculated, just as a certain vigilant Deputy Commissioner in the Punjab has done. He then praises Mr. Atkins for his efforts in this direction, and says that the Deputy Commissioners throughout the Province should follow the lead of that officer.

The same.

15. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 24th September 1902, writing on the same subject, remarks that although Government has decided to use no compulsion in connection with inoculation, it behoves every sensible person to urge his friends and neighbours to take advantage of the present opportunity to get themselves inoculated. The Editor says that it has been established almost beyond doubt that the operation serves as a preventive against plague. He adds that at Bombay the fewest deaths from the disease have occurred among the Parsis, and that this is owing to that

section of the population having submitted themselves to inoculation almost to a man. The Editor concludes by exhorting the Punjabis to follow in the footsteps of the Parsis and get themselves inoculated.

The same.

16. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, reports that in the course of the conference to which the Deputy Commissioner recently invited the local journalists, some of the Hindu Editors present gave that officer to understand that there could be no objection to women being inoculated by European male doctors. Their Muhammadan *confreres*, however, respectfully pointed out to Mr. Atkins that under the present state of Musalman society no respectable member of it would agree to the inoculation of his womenkind by male doctors. They therefore suggested the employment of lady inoculators, to which the Deputy Commissioner replied that this would be done in the case of Lahore at least, but that in villages where *parda* was not so strictly observed there should be no objection to male doctors inoculating women.

The Delhi Darbar.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Curzon Gazette*, (Delhi), of the 23rd September 1902, says that all sections of the population are full of complaints about the invitations issued in connection with the coming Delhi Darbar. In some cases, he states, the persons invited to the Darbar held by Lord Lytton have not been honoured with invitations on the present occasion; while those who enjoy the respect of Government and have received titles of honour from it have also been overlooked. The same treatment has been meted out to gentlemen who have served on Municipal Committees for years and received dozens of certificates in recognition of their services, or who have proved themselves of great help in connection with famine and plague and have been given titles in return. In these circumstances, says the writer, it is very necessary that some more persons should be invited, no section of the population being left unrepresented. He adds that if this is not done the Darbar will be deprived of much of its anticipated *eclat*, while the Exhibition proposed to be held in connection with it will not prove of much advantage to the country.

The same.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 32 of Selections No. 37), announces that its well-wishers will be gratified to learn that it has also been invited to send a representative to the Delhi Darbar. This, says the Editor, shows clearly enough that Government is always ready to rectify a mistake, and that it pays due regard to the writings in the Press. He then remarks that other deserving newspapers should also be honoured with invitations.

Transfers among Tahsildars.

19. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 22nd September 1902, suggests that a Tahsildar should only be allowed to serve at one place for three years, on the expiry of which period he should be transferred. In case, however, special reasons require his extended stay in the same *ilaqa*, the Financial Commissioner's sanction should be obtained to the extension. The Editor then calls upon the Hon'ble Mr. Tupper to order the preparation of a statement showing the dates on which the various Tahsildars in the Punjab were posted to their respective

tahsils and direct the transfer of those in whose cases this may seem advisable. He adds that not a few Tahsildars have to serve, for long years in tahsils the head-quarters of which are nothing better than deserts or villages where the unfortunate officials in question cannot live in comfort or make arrangements for the education of their children. The Editor has no doubt that were his suggestion acted upon, such complaints would cease and all Tahsildars in the Province would be placed on a footing of equality. In another place in the same paper he suggests that no Tahsildar should be allowed to serve in one tahsil for more than five years.

Revenue Officers' tours.

20. The same paper says that the Local Government has so far framed no rules fixing the number of days in a month a Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner should pass respectively on tour and at head-quarters. The Editor is of opinion that it is to the interests of both Government and the people that some such rules should be framed without delay. He adds that at present Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioners are constantly on tour,—a state of affairs which not only entails great hardship and loss on litigants, but is also a heavy burden on the public treasury, as it allows the officers in question to run up large travelling allowance bills. The Editor also suggests that the officers concerned should see that no Revenue Extra Assistant Commissioner goes on tour merely for the sake of travelling allowance.

The same.

21. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 19th September 1902, says that when out on tour Revenue Officers should take with them only a specified number of followers. The number of horses which these officers and their followers take out should also be limited, to avoid difficulty in the collection of provisions and fodder in villages. The Editor further remarks that no Revenue official below the rank of an Extra Assistant Commissioner should, while on tour, be accompanied by more than one horse, cows and buffaloes being only taken out when milk cannot be purchased. He then suggests that if the officers under reference were to use bicycles, this would enable them to travel much more quickly and dispense with the necessity for special arrangements for fodder.

A suggestion to make the publishing of certain predictions penal.

22. The *Sat Dharm Parcharik* (Jullundur), of the 19th September 1902, says that some time back Mr. Pillay, an astrologer in the Madras Presidency, published a prediction to the effect that a very severe shock of earthquake would be felt on the nights of the 30th and 31st August last. Although certain other astrologers published refutations of the prediction no one listened to them. Marriages were postponed and business came to a standstill. Again, hundreds of villagers and townsfolk left their homes on the aforesaid nights and slept in the open. After remarking that the prediction turned out to be false, the Editor suggests that the causing of such panics among the people should be made penal.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—10-10-02—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XV.] [No. 41.]

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PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 11th October 1902.

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 41.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 11th October 1902.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th September 1902, refers to the rejection by the Bombay Corporation of the motion to present an address of welcome to Lord Kitchener on his landing in India and says that in the course of the discussion reference was made to the desecration of the tomb of the Mahdi of the Soudan by his Lordship. The Editor is of opinion that this act of sacrilege constitutes a blot on the name of the future Commander-in-Chief of India. Indeed even the half-civilized nations of the Dark Ages would have shrunk from insulting the dead, while the general public has always looked upon such acts with abhorrence.

Lord Kitchener's desecration of the Mahd.'s tomb.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1902, publishes a letter from a little girl forwarding Rs. 2-8-0 towards the Hedjaz Fund, the amount being made up of the *'Id* and other presents made to her. The Editor asks Indian Musalmans to imitate the example of this child and contribute their mite to the Fund.

The Hedjaz Railway Fund.

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 19th September 1902.	2,617	8	4
Small subscriptions	32	0	0
Total ...	2,749	8	4
Add amount already remitted to Turkey	6,453	1	10
Grand Total ...	9,202	10	2

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th September 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	12,166	3	5
Small subscriptions	16	0	0
Total ...	12,182	3	5

5. The *Sat Dharm Prachar* (Jullundur), of the 26th September 1902, remarks that the *Pioneer* states that the Native Princes invited to attend the Delhi Darbar own territories 500,000 square miles in area, viz., two-and-a-half times as large as the German Kingdom. Most probably the statement is meant to enable Germany and other nations to form an idea of the strength of the British Empire. But can the *Pioneer* say that the troops maintained and the adult males living in all the said territories put together could withstand even two thousand German soldiers? The Editor then goes on to say that if Native Chiefs and *Raises* are being paraded before the world with the object of making other powers fear Great Britain, it is essential that the people and Princes of India should be taught the use of arms, so that they may not prove only carpet knights in the hour of their rulers' need.

Government and the people.

III.—Native States.

6. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th September 1902, says that there is no truth in the *Hamdard-i-Hind's* statements that the Tika of Suket went to Mandi, not because he was in trouble in his father's palace, but simply because he was drawn thither by certain "writings and magnetic attraction." It was the unnatural and harsh treatment accorded to him by his father which drove the Tika from Suket. The Editor adds that the young Prince was ill treated to make him marry against his will, and that recently the allowance of his nurse has been stopped merely to cause him further pain. He then goes on to say that the aforesaid paper is also wrong in charging the Tika with spending his time in company of a boy cook.

Suket affairs.

7. The same paper of the 1st October 1902 publishes a communication in which the writer (who is no other than Mian Janmejai) takes the *Hamdard-i-Hind* to task for impugning his moral character (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 40). He adds that the accusation, which really emanates from the Raja of Suket, is in keeping with the former conduct of His Highness who did not scruple to make similar false and scandalous charges against his sister-in-law. Indeed, Dusht Nikandan Sain is devoid of all sense of shame and decency, and there is nothing surprising in his accusing the writer of immorality. The latter then reiterates the charges he has from time to time made against the ruler of Suket, challenging His Highness to disprove the same.

The same.

8. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 23rd September 1902, says that the Raja of Suket performs his duties conscientiously and is always open to reason. A ruler, remarks the Editor, who possesses these qualities is deserving of praise from the public. Dusht Nikandan Sain considers it a duty to obey Government, and in his desire to make the administration of his territory perfect he looks to all affairs of State himself. In these circumstances, it behoves Government to pay no heed to the complaints which certain persons, who were expelled the State for their misdeeds, have been publishing in newspapers against His

The same.

Highness. His subjects are grateful to the Raja for the numerous administrative reforms introduced by him during his rule. The relations between him and the heir-apparent are all that could be desired, while his Prime Minister, Seth Panna Lal, is a sincere well-wisher of Suket and its subjects.

The same.

9. The same paper of the 30th September 1902 publishes another article in praise of the Raja of Suket.

The proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the service of Native States.

10. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1902, says that some time back it was pointed out in its columns that the Nawab of Bahawalpur was ill advised in giving publicity to his orders regarding the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the public service of the State. Certain persons, however, took exception to its remarks and characterised them as foolish and uncalled for. It is now the Editor's turn to inform these persons what effect the foregoing orders have had in Hindu States. He alleges that the Maharaja of Kohlapur, who owns territories far larger in area that the Bahawalpur State, has passed a Resolution which will affect His Highness' Muhammadan subjects in the same way that the Nawab's orders have done Bahawalpur Hindu subjects. He then goes on to say that a consideration of the fact that, with the exception of Hyderabad, nearly all the large Native States are under the rule of Hindus and that their Chiefs bear their co-religionists far greater love than the ruler of Bahawalpur has for his, should enable one to form an idea as to how the example set in Bahawalpur will spread and how it will affect the Muhammadan subjects of Hindu States. The Editor further remarks that it is his earnest desire that the controversy regarding the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the public service of the country should not extend to British India, and that Native States should endeavour to keep themselves free from it.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Golden Temple, Amritsar.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th September 1902, after referring to the Deputy Commissioner's orders directing the publication of annual statements of the Golden Temple accounts, says that no useful purpose will be served by showing in the returns only the total of receipts and expenditure. The statements should contain the details of at least all large items of income and expenditure, so as to enable donors to know that their gifts are properly applied. The Editor then expresses his surprise at the late Manager having left a cash balance of only Rs. 14-15-6, and alleges that the hundreds of money orders received by that official were not credited to the Temple Fund. He adds that the items of expenditure entered in the recently published statements pertaining to Colonel Jowala Singh's six years' management of the Temple are mostly fictitious. He also complains that Sardar Arur Singh, the new Manager, neglects his duties and has entrusted everything to his *protegé* Munshi Sant Ram, having himself visited the Temple only two or three times. The Editor then reiterates his objections to the Sardar's appointment (*vide* paragraph 15 of Selections No. 38), and says that the Deputy Commissioner will have to be asked to replace Arur Singh by a better man.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

12. One Muhammad Hafiz [illegible] remarks about Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian. [illegible] ing the Mirza's anger and prompting him to write a pamphlet in which such abusive language was used towards the Editor of the aforesaid paper as no civilized man would think of employing. The *Alminar* has published a review of the publication in question, and in the course of its remarks says that in his works the "promised Messiah of Kadian" merely praises himself, puts forward false pretensions and abuses his opponents. The compilations, adds the Cairo journal, also contain passages in which the Mirza resorts to mean flattery in order to get some title of honour out of Government. The Editor of the *Alminar* is of opinion that apparently Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's sole object in life seems to be to fleece his followers by making them believe that Government is favourably disposed towards him. He then asks the Mirza the whereabouts of the Indian Musalmans who wish to wage *jehads* and whom he feels compelled to dissuade from doing so, remarking that in no part of the world are to be found Muhammadans capable of engaging in religious wars. He also wishes to know if "the Prophet of Kadian" has recieved a revelation to the effect that the undertaking of defensive wars reflects credit on Europeans, but brings only shame on the followers of Islam! He then contends that the traditions on the subject do not support Ghulam Ahmad's claim to be the promised Messiah. According to these traditions the Messiah will come down from heaven and will be accompanied by two angels. But can the Mirza say that India is heaven and that his followers, who are a lot of fools, are angels? The *Alminar* also ridicules the claim of this "Anti-Christ" that he can work miracles.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th September 1902, suggests the following scale of pay for Police Officers, and says that his scheme would induce a better class of men to enter the Department :—

	Rs.	
Constables	10	per month.
Sergeant, 3rd Grade	20	ditto.
Ditto, 2nd Grade	25	ditto.
Ditto, 1st Grade	30	ditto.
Deputy Inspector, 3rd Grade	50	ditto.
Ditto, 2nd Grade	80	ditto.
Ditto, 1st Grade	100	ditto.
Inspector, 3rd Grade	150	ditto.
Ditto, 2nd Grade	200	ditto.
Ditto, 1st Grade	250	ditto.

The rams.

14. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1902, endeavours to prove that most of the shortcomings of the Police are due to their defective training. Even the Training Schools at Phillour and Muradabad have not

evil; in fact the students of these institutions [illegible] preliminary inquiries in connection with a case. After observing that the Police are generally ignorant of law and their responsibilities, the Editor suggests that the instruction imparted at the said Training Schools should be of a more practical nature. He further suggests that all Police Officers should be periodically examined in law and that promotions should depend on the results of these examinations, good conduct, and meritorious services.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

The proposal to reduce the number of Native Municipal Commissioners in Lahore.

15. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1902, expresses the hope that the Punjab Government will pay due regard to the resolutions adopted at a recent meeting of the local Rate-payers' Association on the subject of the proposed reduction of the native element on the Municipal Committee of Lahore. Everybody who was present at this meeting will bear testimony to the fact that the proposal has caused great pain to the residents of the city. After remarking that the reduction is to be effected in order to still further increase the number of European Municipal Commissioners, whose present strength is already out of all proportion to the white population of Lahore, the Editor states that several speakers at the aforesaid gathering pointed out that the notification published in the *Punjab Government Gazette* on the subject was a mere formality; that in cases like this the Government forms its opinion at the very outset; and that memorials adopted at public meetings cannot make Government alter this opinion. The fact, however, that a just and vigilant officer like Sir Charles Rivaz is the present Lieutenant-Governor of the Province was held to give hope of the matter receiving favourable consideration.

Amritsar Municipal affairs.

16. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th September 1902, says that the complaint published in its columns against Mr. Gardener, late Secretary to the Amritsar Municipality, had no effect upon the City Fathers. Indeed, with three or four honourable exceptions, these worthies found it to their interest to connive at, rather than to expose, Mr. Gardener's illegal and corrupt practices. Continued efforts, however, on the part of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*, particularly the articles published by the *Intelligencer* on the subject, have at last borne fruit, inasmuch as they have compelled Mr. Gardener to resign his post. The Editor then takes the Municipal Commissioners of Amritsar to task for accepting Mr. Gardener's resignation at a time when a bribery case was to be instituted against him. He also takes exception to the late Secretary having been paid Rs. 600 in lieu of one month's notice, and asks who is to be held responsible for the unlawful transactions of Mr. Gardener with Municipal contractors. He also advises the Municipality to confirm Mr. Nichol, who is an honest, experienced and painstaking official, in the post of Secretary, and warns the latter to keep an eye on the doings of Maulvi Barkat Ali Khan, Dhanpat Rai, Siraj-ud-din, Abdul Qadir and Tara Singh, the *protegés* of his predecessor. In conclusion, the Editor suggests that all works executed by the Moolsari Contractor should be carefully inspected.

17. The same paper of the 1st October 1902 says that after Mr. Gardener's resignation the pick hundreds of people surrounded Mr. Gardener's bungalow to demand back the bribes they had given him to serve their personal ends. Several notices were served on the said gentleman, but nothing came of them owing to the Civil Courts being closed. The Editor adds that finding himself hard-pressed Mr. Gardener took refuge in the Refreshment Room at the Railway Station and left Amritsar on the 27th September. He then urges the desirability of appointing Mr. Nichol permanently to the post of Secretary, adding that the latter, who enjoys the confidence of those who know him well, is in every respect deserving of the appointment.

The same.

18. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1902, writing on the same subject, says that finding Government had grown suspicious of him, Mr. Gardener went up to Simla, but that on his return to Amritsar he lost no time in tendering his resignation.

The same.

19. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 26th September 1902, writing on the same subject, says that although ill-health is the ostensible reason of Mr. Gardener's resignation, it is the persistent efforts of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* in exposing his misdoings which have compelled him to take this step. After eulogizing that paper the Editor says that Mr. Nichol is fully qualified for the post of Secretary. He then warns Mr. Nichol to keep clear of the evil counsels of interested and corrupt persons.

The same.

20. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 29th September 1902, also publishes similar remarks and says that Mr. Gardener proved himself anything but a useful Secretary. He was, adds the Editor, not only indifferent to his work and harsh in his treatment of his subordinates, but, what is worse in a highly-placed officer, he was addicted to bribery.

The same.

21. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 11 of Selections No. 39), says that the present Octroi Tahsildar, Amritsar, has upset the admirable octroi arrangements inaugurated by the late Mr. Nichol, with the result that it has become very easy to embezzle octroi money. As an instance, the Editor alleges that on the 6th September Nur Ali, Muharrir, Hathi Gate Octroi Post, collected three pice as octroi on some *bhusa* imported by one Mota Singh, but he did not enter the amount in his register. Again on another occasion he did not realize octroi for 4 out of 6 carts of grain brought into the city by a certain person. The Editor then complains of the corrupt practices of the Conservancy Darogha, promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

The same.

22. The same paper of the 1st October 1902 invites the attention of the new Secretary to the doings of the Mooltan Contractor, alleging that the man has defrauded the Municipality of thousands of rupees. After mentioning a few instances in

subject of the allegation. The Editor suggests that no more money should be paid to the Contractors till the works executed by him have been inspected by an Engineer. He is also of opinion that notices regarding the coming Diwali fair should be inserted only in such newspapers as have a permanent and large circulation. He further warns the Secretary against one Ghulam Muhammad, a Contractor, and says that the latter should have nothing to do with the refund of the cattle-tax realized at the fair. The Editor then goes on to say that the local Octroi Tahsildar being engaged in trade on his own account, embezzlement in the Department under his charge is daily on the increase. He adds that several complaints have been received against Muhammad Din, Conservancy Darogha, and that some of these are serious enough to warrant the suspension of that official. In conclusion, he alleges that out of the Rs. 5,000 sanctioned for cleaning the *ganda nala*, Rs. 2,000 and Rs. 800 have been pocketed by Mr. Gardener and the subordinate octroi officials respectively.

The same.

23. The same paper says that there seems no necessity to pay one Bal Mokand, a Banker at Amritsar, five or six annas per cent. in consideration of his taking the small change collected in octroi. After suggesting that the practice should be discontinued, the Editor alleges that the local butchers are having a very hard time of it at the hands of Abdul Aziz, Veterinary Assistant, and that several complaints have reached him on the subject. He further says that a certain Municipal Darogha used to receive Rs. 50 per month from dealers in *bhusa*, but that it is not known what part of the amount was paid to Mr. Gardener.

A complaint in connection with the recovery of house-tax in the Rawalpindi Cantonment.

24. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 27th September 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 36 of Selections No. 38, says that no period should be fixed within which the residents of the Rawalpindi Cantonment can claim a refund of house-tax realised from them. The Editor adds that the Raja of Punch's bungalow situated behind the Cantonment Magistrate's Court has been assessed at Rs. 41 per annum, although it remains unoccupied for the greater part of the year, being occasionally used for a few days when the Raja visits Rawalpindi.

(d)—Education.

The Muhammadan Educational Conference.

25. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1902, announces that the next session of the Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental Conference is to be held at Delhi. After remarking that the followers of Islam throughout the country ought to further the aims of the Conference, the Editor says that leading Musalmans from all parts of India will be present in Delhi on the occasion and that those of them who have their co-religionists' prosperity at heart will take part in the meeting. Maulvi Nazir Ahmad is right in declaring that this session will decide the fate of Indian Muhammadans. The Editor then goes on to say that Muhammadan ruling Princes are chary of giving money for national objects, and that this is owing to the people having no adequate means of making their voice heard by Native Chiefs. It is, however, a matter

for congratulation that on the occasion of its next annual gathering the Muhammadan Educational Conference will have an opportunity of sending deputations to wait on nearly all Mussalman Chiefs and inviting their attention to its unfinished work. The fondest hopes of the Prophet's followers in India centre round the Nizam, to whom the movement is already under heavy obligations. Were His Highness to take pity on the forlorn condition of his co-religionists he would be certain to render the movement such pecuniary help as would enable it to realize its highest objects. After remarking that liberal donations are also expected from the rulers of Rampur, Bhopal, Bahawalpur, and other States, the Editor announces that His Highness Sir Agha Khan, who has followers not only in India but in other Asiatic countries and Africa, is to preside at the coming conference and may be relied upon for pecuniary assistance. He further remarks that prominent noblemen from all parts of India will also be present in Delhi on the occasion and that hundreds of these may take part in the proceedings and make handsome contributions. He adds that the first effort of the conference has always been to make arrangements for the education of the sons of *Raises* and that consequently whatever money the nobility may give, it will be for their own betterment. He then exhorts the members of the aristocracy to subscribe liberally towards the Conference Fund.

The Report of the Universities Commission.

26. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 9 of Selections No. 40), takes exception to the Universities recommendations regarding the raising of the standard of the Entrance Examination and the appointment of English-speaking Professors to teach Sanskrit and Arabic. He also opposes the proposal that no student should be allowed to study law before he has taken a degree in arts, and says that this is calculated to throw obstacles in the way of hundreds of men earning their bread. After remarking that the Commission's suggestions concerning the improvement of the vernaculars of India are impracticable, he observes that there exists no ground to connect Lord Curzon with the recommendation of the Commission. On the contrary, the correspondent has no doubt that His Excellency will be slow to accept the recommendations.

The same.

27. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 24th September 1902, says that the Commission's recommendation regarding the enhancement of College fees is very hard on poor students of all communities. If it is accepted by Government, Muhammadans, who are already behind their Hindu neighbours in the matter of education, will have perforce to stay away from High Schools and Colleges. This, adds the Editor, is calculated to lower the social and political status of Mussalmans and thereby create difficulties for the authorities. The recommendation differentiates between rich and poor students, although the latter are invariably more industrious and intelligent than the former. Besides, it is nothing but injustice to close the door of high education in the face of students of humble means. The Editor further remarks that the acceptance of the recommendation will have the effect of emptying Colleges of their pupils. He then calls upon his fellow-countrymen to hold meetings to condemn the more objectionable recommendations made by the Commission, and urges Lord Curzon not to accept the same.

(V.)—*Miscellaneous.*

29. The *Chashma-i-Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd September 1902, expresses surprise at the Local Government's decision that *parda* women should be inoculated by male doctors. The Editor was under the belief that the decision being a mistaken one, it would be reversed at an early date. So far, however, Government has adhered to its original decision; and this renders it necessary that the leading residents of the Punjab should invite the attention of the authorities to the matter and get the mistake rectified before it leads to any unpleasant result. No respectable native can consent to the inoculation of his womenfolk by male doctors.

The same.

29. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1902, says that no compulsion is to be used in carrying out the Punjab Government's plague inoculation measures. The reason for this is that most of the races inhabiting the country observe *parda*, while among the Muhammadans the custom has the force of a religious ordinance. Even in those sections of the population which have nothing to do with *parda*, females object to exposing to strange men their arms, wrists, &c. After referring to statistics in order to prove that inoculation is a preventive against plague, the Editor calls upon men of light and learning in the Punjab to combine and collect money to engage the services of lady inoculators.

The same.

30. A correspondent of the *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), dated the 29th September 1902, writing on the same subject, states that it having been rumoured in Jhelum that force was to be used in connection with inoculation, timid people began to leave the city. On the matter reaching the ears of the Deputy Commissioner, that officer caused it to be made known by beat of drum that the rumour was wholly unfounded. Even this, however, has failed to reassure the people and the exodus continues. The writer adds that the fact of the Deputy Commissioner and 24 others having undergone inoculation in the presence of a large crowd is calculated to prove of much help in allaying the excitement.

The same.

31. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 30th September 1902, publishes a communication over the signature of "Sh. D. of Ramnagar," who says that if inoculation were not an efficacious remedy for plague Government would not have spent lakhs of rupees to get the people inoculated. He then refers to facts and figures to prove the useful nature of the operation, and exhorts the people to place no credence in the mischievous rumours set afloat in connection with it, and to have themselves inoculated before the setting in of the coming cold season.

The same.

32. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad writing to the *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 24th September 1902, praises the Local Government for its plague inoculation scheme, and exhorts the people to get themselves inoculated without hesitation. He adds that he would have been the first man to undergo inoculation did not a "heavenly" obstacle stand in the way of his doing so. This obstacle, he alleges, is that the Almighty is about to manifest a sign for the benefit of mankind, and with this object has revealed to him that the persons residing within the four walls of his house as well as those having perfect faith in him will remain immune from the epidemic. He has been further informed by God that plague of a virulent

type will not appear in Kadian and that his followers will not be as liable to the attacks of the disease as his opponents. The Mirza further observes that although it is no sin to have recourse to medicine in illness, he considers it sinful to resort to inoculation (for fear of plague) and thereby render doubtful the sign which God wishes to show in an unmistakable manner. Besides, the sole desire of the authorities being that the people should escape plague, the manner in which God directs him to attain the end cannot clash with the wishes of Government. After remarking that the advent of the epidemic was predicted by him in his *Burahin-i-Ahmadia* (pages 518-19) more than twenty years ago, he says that Government will appreciate the aforesaid revelation when the amazing fact is brought to its notice that his followers have really enjoyed greater immunity from the plague than the inoculated, which, he adds, should be proof positive of his being a messenger of the Almighty. He then goes on to say that at least ten thousand revelations have been made to him from time to time which have turned out to be true and that every one of his prophecies has been fulfilled. "The Prophet of Kadian" also takes the Nadwat-ul-Ulema and the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, to task for rejecting and opposing him, and calls upon these bodies to realise the error of their ways and accept him as the promised Messiah. In conclusion, he remarks that he does not mean to forbid his followers to undergo inoculation. Those of them in regard to whom Government's final decision is that they should get themselves inoculated, ought not to hesitate to do so. As for those with whom it is optional to undergo the operation or not, if they are not firm in the faith he has taught them they should also get themselves inoculated.

The plague.

33. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st October 1902, reports that the second meeting of the local Rate Payers' Association was held on the 28th ultimo under the presidency of Lala Ratan Chand. The meeting was well attended and the following resolutions were adopted in view of the outbreak of plague in the city :—

(1) That the Municipality be requested to entertain special officials to look after the sanitation of the city.

(2) That the conservancy staff having failed to give satisfaction, the Municipality be asked to entrust the work of disinfection to local *chaudhris*, respectable townspeople and members of the Rate Payers' Association.

(3) That Government be requested to provide a camp for such plague patents as may agree to segregation.

(4) That arrangements be made to prevent water in tanks from becoming polluted.

(5) That the Municipal Committee be moved to make arrangements for the destruction of rats and the disposal of those found dead in the streets.

(6) That a Plague Fund be started to supply medicines which are known to serve as preventives against plague.

(7) That steps be taken to popularise inoculation.

The Editor adds that as the two theatrical Companies now at Amritsar are likely to prove the means of spreading the infection, they should be made to leave the city.

34. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd September 1902, says that although Muhammadans form the majority of the population of the Punjab very few of them have been invited to the Delhi Darbar. The district of Rawalpindi has fared worst in the matter, and its leading residents, Sardar Muhammad Ali Khan, Malik Itibar Khan and Syad Amir Haidar Shah for instance, have not been honoured with invitations. Again, the fact of Khan Bahadur Barkat Ali Khan, the acknowledged leader of the Punjab Musalmans, not having been invited has caused general surprise in the Province. Equally surprising is the overlooking of the claims of Maulvi Nazir Ahmad, Maulvi Zaka Ulla, Syad Mahmud, Hakim Muhammad Wasil Khan, Kazi Muhammad Aslam Khan and Khan Bahadur Abdul Ghafur Khan, Zaida.

The Delhi Darbar.

35. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 27th September 1902, says that it is hoped that the message from the King-Emperor to be read at the forthcoming Delhi Darbar will affect the people of India for the better. If, adds the Editor, Lord Curzon were to declare on the auspicious occasion that, as is laid down in the Cantonment Code, natives should be given seats on Cantonment Committees, His Excellency would be doing a very desirable thing.

The same.

36. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 26th September 1902, remarks that not a single vernacular newspaper in the Nizam's Dominions has been invited to send a representative to the Delhi Darbar. The Editor asserts that several of the newspapers published in Hyderabad are deserving of the honour, being in no way inferior to their contemporaries invited to the Darbar.

The same.

37. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 27th September 1902, says that when the Land Alienation Bill was before the Supreme Legislative Council, Maulvi Muharram Ali Chishti, Editor of the *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), published a series of articles supporting the proposed law and thereby rendered valuable service to Government. Again, a perusal of the articles which now and then appear in his paper in justification of Government's present Land Revenue policy would show that he is always ready to support official measures of a praiseworthy and enlightened nature. In addition to this, he comes of a very respectable family and occupies a high social position, and journalists of his attainments are few and far between in India. Moreover, his paper is looked upon as the organ of the *Rais* party in the Punjab, and among the subscribers to it are all the prominent statesmen and nobles throughout the Province,—in fact, throughout the country. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* is also subscribed to by a number of Government officials including High Court Judges, some of whom, as well as members of the highest aristocratic families, frequently visit Maulvi Muharram Ali at his house. The Editor adds that it is the public desire that the Maulvi should also be invited to the Delhi Darbar.

The same.

38. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1902, says that the Police should be deputed to guard the costly materials lying unpacked in the Delhi Camp. The Editor suggests that the matter should be looked into without delay, as several cases of theft are already said to have occurred.

39. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer, by continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 35 of Selection No. 371), says that the statement published by the *Punjab Samachar* does not represent the actual number of Hindus and Muhammadans employed in the Western Jumna Canal Circle. That paper has tried to mislead the public by including in the list even the Musalman Patwaris, chaprasis, &c., serving in the circle, omitting the names of Hindu Sub-Overseers, Clerks and Deputy Collectors. The writer then publishes a table giving the names and salaries of the *Amla* in question, and alleges that certain relations of the Head Munshi residing in the Rohtak District, as also those of the Deputy Collector in the Garhi Brahmnan and Sonepat villages, are engaged in agriculture. It is true that most of them are *Biswidars* and *Zamindars* and do not cultivate with their own hands, still their lands are irrigated from the canal.

The preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal Circle.

40. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th September 1902, suggests that those Tahsildars who have been serving in their respective *ilaqas* for five years should be transferred to other tahsils. The Editor invites the attention of the Financial Commissioner to the matter, remarking that, like Munsifs, Tahsildars should be periodically transferred.

Transfers among Tahsildars.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—18-10-02—70.

[Confidential]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Russia and Germany in the Persian Gulf.

1. One Azíz Ahmad of Glasgow, writing to the *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th October 1902, invites Lord Curzon's attention to the predominating influence Russia and Germany are acquiring in the Persian Gulf, and suggests that the only way to checkmate these Powers is to found an Indian Navy. He is of opinion that the money subscribed towards the Victoria Memorial Fund should be utilized for this purpose, and not frittered away in importing marble and architects from Europe, especially as there is no dearth of imposing buildings in India.

Cretan affairs.

2. The *Chaudhwín Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st October 1902, says that ever since his appointment as High Commissioner of Crete, Prince George has been endeavouring to bring about the amalgamation of that island with Greece. And towards the attainment of this end he has always been making mischief of some sort, and addressing applications to the Christian Powers of Europe. After remarking that he has recently made certain revolutionary suggestions to the four Powers responsible for the administration of Crete, the Editor states that the Governments concerned are said to have rejected some of the proposals and promise to request the Porte to adopt the rest. He adds that Prince George has always worked like a dishonest and unfaithful servant, and that he considers it a duty to wound the feelings of the Muhammadans. The Powers take no notice of his doings, which still further emboldens this mischief-maker to persist in his unconstitutional course. It is hardly likely that his impudence and high-handedness are inspired by the Greeks, for the faces of his fellow-countrymen are still covered with the dust of the plains of Thessaly. It is the Powers charged with the administration of Crete which are at the back of the present High Commissioner of that island; had they any sense of justice he would never have displayed the boldness he has been doing.

3. The *Vakíl* (Amritsar), of the 3rd October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjáz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	12,182	3	5
Small subscriptions	18	13	0
Total	*12,201	0	5

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 26th September 1902.	2,649	8	4
Small subscriptions.	41	0	0
Total ...	2,690	8	4
Add amount already remitted to Turkey	6,453	1	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	9,143	10	2

(b)—Home.

5. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th October 1902, observes that the news regarding Prince Dalíp Singh having been driven into the Bankruptcy Court has turned out to be true. The Editor says that the Prince and his wife receive a monthly allowance of Rs. 11,250, but that they make this out to be insufficient for their maintenance and ask for more. The Prince also claims £600,000 from the Government of India on account of the value of his late father's personal property which was taken possession of by Government. The Editor then goes on to say that a certain newspaper is of opinion that the residents of the Punjab, especially those who are in easy circumstances through the munificence of the Prince's family, should collect subscriptions to help him out of his financial difficulties. The *Tribune*, however, writes to say that it is idle to expect such a thing from the Punjabís, the old order of things having passed away. Such are the vicissitudes of fortune!

Prince Dalíp Singh and Government.

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

6. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th September 1902, says that the *Sindh Gazette* is of opinion that Government ought not to have allowed the transportation through India of the large quantities of arms and ammunition recently imported from Europe by the Amír of Kabul. That paper would also dissuade Government, in their own interests, from trusting His Highness more than is necessary. The fact, however, that the above materials of war were imported, not secretly, but with the full knowledge of Government, should, says the *Akhbár-i-'Am* disarm all suspicion. Besides, the military stores in question were ordered by Abdur Rahmán and not by the present Amír; while they are wanted only for the defence of the frontiers of Afghánistán. The Editor holds no brief on behalf of Habíbullah Khán, but he would remark that His Highness having given sufficient proof of the sincerity of his friendship for England, Government should be slow to suspect him.

The new Amír and Government.

* Of this Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted, through the National Bank, to Constantinople.

III.—Native States.

The Viceroy's projected tour in certain Native States.

7. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st October 1902, is at a loss to understand why the Viceroy should have decided to visit certain Feudatory States when His Excellency is to meet all the Native Chiefs at the coming Darbár at Delhi. The Editor adds that the financial condition of not a few Native States is far from satisfactory, while Indian Princes are certain to be considerably out of pocket by their visit to Delhi. Apparently, therefore, it seems advisable that Lord Curzon should not add still further to the burdens of the States concerned by visiting them.

Native Chiefs and the Delhi Darbár.

8. The *Sat Dharm Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 3rd October 1902, says that the Delhi Darbár will be certain to prove the ruin of many Native Chiefs. The Viceroy has requested the Rulers of Feudatory States to appear at the Darbár dressed in their "ancestral garb" and this will lead to the waste of lakhs, nay, crores of rupees. But then "one can see a *tamásha* only by setting one's house on fire."

Suket affairs.

9. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th October 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 40), says that the Commissioner of Jullundur is reported to have obtained a promise from the Rája of Mandi and the Tika of Suket to the effect that the last named will not marry without his father's consent. After charging Mián Janmejai with having set the Tika against Dusht Nikanden Sain, the Editor expresses the hope that the boy will soon see the error of his ways and, like a dutiful son, ask forgiveness of his father. He then endeavours to refute the allegations charging the Ruler of Suket with ill-treating his son, and asserts that there is no truth in the *Ahlúwália Gazette's* account of the young prince's so-called flight to Mandi. He concludes by remarking that the Rája has never been guilty of undue severity towards his son.

The same.

10. The *Punjab Samachár* (Lahore), of the 4th October 1902, says that the *Ahlúwália Gazette* has come to acquire an unenviable notoriety for the use of scurrilous and obscene language. The Editor adds that in one of its recent issues that paper insinuated that the Rája of Suket had not been invited to the Delhi Darbár owing to His Highness being under the displeasure of Government. But will it say why the Rájas of *Punch*, *Faridkot*, *Bilaspur* and *Arki* have been similarly treated? The fact is that Government is unable to issue a a large number of invitations, and should be held excused for overlooking the claims of some deserving persons.

The same.

11. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th October 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer contradicts the *Hamdard-i-Hind*, and says that Mián Janmejai was never expelled the State (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 40). Dust Nikanden Sain dare not offer the Mián such an insult. The correspondent adds that the Tika of Suket passes a very miserable time at his father's home, and alleges that although during the boy's recent illness an Assistant Surgeon was summoned from Simla for form's sake, the medicines prescribed were never used.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

14. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 7th October 1902, says that the Gujrát public seem to be of opinion that Lala Lachman Dás should be selected to fill the vacancy caused on the local Honorary Bench by the death of the late Rái Sáhib Daulat Shah. The Lála belongs to an old and respectable family, has twice been Vice-President of the Gujrát Municipal Board, is an old Municipal Commissioner, and has rendered valuable service to Government.

The vacancy on the Gujrát Honorary Bench.

(d)—Education.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th October 1902, says that public opinion in the country is bitterly hostile to the recommendations of the Universities Commission. The Editor takes exception to the suggestion that University Fellows should be appointed for a period of five years only. He is of opinion that able and competent persons should be elected Fellows for life.

The Universities Commission.

14. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th October 1902, says that the Khálsa Collegiate School, Amritsar, is in a very deplorable condition. The posts of Head Master and Second Master have not been filled yet, and the students are full of complaints on the subject, and the next Middle School Examination is close at hand. The Editor says that the mismanagement prevailing in the school appears to be wholly due to the incompetency of Sardár Sundar Singh, the new Secretary to the College Council, who, though an honest and upright man, lacks experience. He suggests that the teaching staff of the school should consist of Sikhs.

The Khálsa Collegiate School, Amritsar.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd October 1902, publishes a communication from a Gujráti correspondent, who says that in pursuance of a Government notice on the subject a large number of zamíndárs in the Gujránwála, Siálkot, Jhelum, Shahpur and Gujrát Districts bought mares and applied for grants of land (1½ squares each) on the Jhelum Canal. With the exception of a few, however, all the mares were rejected, with the result that the zamíndárs, who had bought the animals with the sale proceeds of their holdings, are in a sad predicament. They can neither maintain the mares, nor can they prevail on the original owners to take back the animals. The writer would, therefore, request Government to take pity on them and grant them land on the canal.

A complaint in connection with the grant of land on the Jhelum Canal.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

16. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiána), of the 8th October 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 15 of the Selections No. 40), says that if the residents of the Punjab do not take advantage of the Local Government's arrangements for inoculation there is no knowing what havoc

The plague.

the plague may work in the Province during the coming winter. Indeed, the number of deaths from the epidemic is already on the increase, a beginning which makes the bravest heart tremble to contemplate the end. After remarking that inoculation alone affords protection against plague, the Editor calls upon all thinking persons to induce the people to get themselves inoculated. He is gratified to learn that the leading residents of Lahore have realized their duty in this respect and are holding public meetings in furtherance of the end in view. The Editor advises the influential residents of all places to follow the example of Lahore and make the advantages of inoculation generally known. They should also impress on the people that no force is to be used.

17. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th October 1902, praises Nawáb Muhammad Ali Khán, Kazilbásh, for his strenuous efforts to popularise inoculation in Lahore. It then reports that another largely attended meeting of the Hindu and Mussalmán residents of the city was held at the Mobárik Haveli on the 30th ultimo; and that Khán Bahádur Barkat Ali Khán, Maulvi Fazal Dín, Nawáb Muhammad Ali Khán, Hakím Ghulám Nabi and the Editor made speeches dwelling on the advantages of inoculation. In his closing remarks the President, Mr. Atkins, pointed out that Government had decided to use no force in connection with its inoculation scheme. The audience were, however, disappointed to learn from him that the Punjab Government had not agreed to his proposal regarding the employment of lady inoculators by the local Municipality.

The same.

18. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st October 1902, regrets that, although inoculation affords great protection against the plague, a number of ignorant and illiterate persons are greatly exercised about it and are flying from their villages in order to escape the operation. After referring to the efficacious character of inoculation, and Government's solicitation for the welfare of its subjects, the Editor urges the people to abstain from spreading false rumours in connection with the inoculation scheme, and advises them to have themselves inoculated. He adds that in case lady doctors cannot be employed for the inoculation of *parda* ladies, the last named should be inoculated at their homes by male doctors in the presence of Missionary ladies.

The same.

19. The same paper says that so far the Siálkot Plague Committee has done nothing to popularise inoculation in that city. Although the plague has broken out in the Ranwál and Ghartal villages, neither of which is more than 10 miles from Siálkot, the Committee has as yet taken no steps in the matter. The Editor urges the City Fathers of Siálkot to introduce inoculation in their respective wards by setting an example to their constituents.

The same.

20. The *Ahlúwália Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th October 1902, reports that during the preceding week the Deputy Commissioner invited the local Editors to a conference, and that all of them expressed themselves in favour of inoculation. As a practical step towards popularising the operation, it was decided that a general meeting of the residents of Amritsar should be held

in the open space adjoining the Clock Tower, and that the said officer, the local doctors, and the *élite* of the city should get themselves inoculated at the meeting. The Editor then praises Government for charging no fee for the operation, which is not only a preventative of plague, but invigorates the system.

The same.

21. The *Gulsár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th October 1902, says that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has published an article in a recent issue of the *Hakam* with the object of dissuading his followers from undergoing inoculation (*vide* paragraph of 32 Selections No. 41). He has repeatedly stated in this article that those who believe in him will not be attacked by the epidemic. As, however, he is a very shrewd man and takes care never to fall into the clutches of Government, he has added that he does not force his disciples to refuse to have themselves inoculated. He knows that no compulsion is to be used in connection with the inoculation scheme, while he can rely on his followers paying heed to what he has said. The result of all this, alleges the Editor, will be that Gover nment will find itself unable to introduce inoculation among the Mirza's following. He then enquires if a person like "the Prophet of Kádián," who obstructs the working of a scheme calculated to benefit the people, is not an offender in the eye of the law. He further remarks that Mirza Ghulám Ahmad has also stated in the aforesaid article that he does not hold himself responsible for the safety of those of his followers who do not believe in him from the very bottom of their hearts. The result of this will be that none of his disciples will come forward to undergo inoculation for fear of making themselves look small in the eyes of their brethren in faith. Nor is this all. If Government takes no notice of the writing in question other bigoted Muhammadans will also refrain from having themselves inoculated, on the reasoning that if plague is to attack infidels alone, they would be bringing disgrace on Islám by submitting to inoculation. Thus the large sum of money which Government has undertaken to spend for the benefit of the people will lead to no good result. In conclusion the Editor suggests that the Mirza should be called upon to explain his conduct in publishing articles calculated to obstruct the working of a scheme designed for the people's good.

The same.

22. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, publishes similar remarks and says that the Mirza does not acknowledge inoculation to be the surest means of avoiding plague and that he adds that Government has failed to assign any satisfactory reason for cases of death among the inoculated. One Khalífa Rashíd-ud-dín, an Assistant Surgeon at Roorkee, is represented to have stated that inoculation breeds several other diseases, and that it affects those who have suffered from syphilis in a very injurious manner. It is not difficult to guess, says the Editor, how all this will affect Government's inoculation scheme.

The same.

23. The same paper, of the 4th October 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains of the insanitary condition of Jullundur, and says that if prompt steps are not taken to remedy the evil the plague will be certain to reappear in that town.

24. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 3rd October, 1902, suggests that visitors' tickets to the Proclamation Durbár should be granted only to those native gentlemen who are Darbáris or whose social position is not inferior to that of Darbáris. It does not seem advisable that persons of a humble station in life, who are not offered chairs even by Deputy Commissioners, should receive admission tickets by representing themselves as newspaper editors or correspondents. The Mír Munshi to every Local Government knows all about the native gentlemen residing within the jurisdiction of that Government, and it is to be hoped that he will recommend only such applicants for the grant of tickets as are really deserving of the honour. The Editor then goes on to say that the number of Darbáris in the Punjab who have not been invited to the Darbár is very large, and that if they wish to be present at the function they should have prior claim to receive visitors' tickets. Viceregal Darbáris or those who have attended Darbárs and levees held by Viceroys should also be considered entitled to the concession. In short, no undeserving or insignificant person, to whatever profession he may declare himself to belong, should be admitted to the Darbár. Should the Mír Munshi to a Local Government stand in need of special information regarding the social position of an applicant, a reference should be made to the authorities concerned.

The Delhi Darbár.

The same paper suggests that the name of Khán Bahádur Syad Qamr-ud-dín, the present head of the Fakír family of Lahore, the services rendered by whom are not unknown to Government, should be added to the list of gentlemen invited to the Darbár. The omission, says the Editor, is one that Government should not fail to rectify.

25. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), of the 6th October 1902, reprints the above.

The same.

26. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th October 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that not a single Hindu gentleman from the Dera Gházi Khan District has been invited to the Delhi Darbár. He then suggests that Government should issue an invitation to Rái Bahádur Hitu Rám, C.I.E., an Honorary Magistrate, 1st Class, at Dera Gházi Khan, who after 30 years' meritorious service in Balúchistán retired on a pension of Rs. 5,000 per annum, and was granted a handsome jágír. This, says the correspondent, is the more necessary as no other Hindu from the district has been invited to the Darbar.

The same.

27. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), of the 29th September 1902, remarks that if a Revenue Officer travels 40 miles in a day he receives mileage at the rate of 4 annas per mile, *i.e.*, Rs. 10 for that day. And in case he travelled at the same rate for all the thirty days of the month his travelling allowance bill for that period would come to Rs. 300, *i.e.*, would exceed his pay by Rs. 50 if he were an Officiating Extra Assistant Commissioner. This, adds the Editor, constitutes an unnecessary burden on the public treasury. Besides, he cannot bring himself to believe that after travelling 40 miles in a day on horseback or in a

Revenue Officers and their tours.

tumtam an officer can have sufficient time to perform his revenue and judicial work. He is, therefore, of opinion that the Local Government should issue instructions prohibiting Revenue Officers from travelling 40 miles a day except in cases of great urgency. He would also suggest that the said officials should not always be out on tour, but should stay at headquarters for at least half the month. The Editor feels confident that the adoption of his suggestion would remedy the evils complained of above, as also put an end to the inconvenience to which litigants are at present subjected, owing to their having to attend the courts of the said officers on tour. He then goes on to say that great care should be exercised in selecting Extra Assistant Commissioners to work as Revenue Assistants. He would suggest that only those Extra Assistant Commissioners should be chosen whose knowledge of Settlement work is exceptional, and who have served with credit as Tahsíldárs for at least 10 years; otherwise they will not be able to properly inspect and detect mistakes in the work performed by the Tahsíldárs, Náib Tahsíldárs, Girdáwars, Patwáris, &c., under them.

The preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal Office.

28. A local correspondent writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th September 1902, takes it to task for falling foul of the *Observer* for complaining of the preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal Office. After referring to the Editor's remark that in regard to public appointments, ability and honesty, and not race distinctions, should be taken into consideration, he enquires if no able and honest Muhammadan is available for service in the said office and if all the Hindu hands working in it possess the qualifications in question. He also wishes to know if, in filling the posts in their gift, Hindu officers invariably follow the principle enunciated by the Editor, and if it is not a fact that they prefer their "Middle-passed" relations and other co-religionists to Mussalmán graduates and undergraduates. Indeed, they are such a bigoted lot that they would not think of employing Muhammadans even as chaprásis, chaukídárs and punkha coolies. In conclusion, the writer alleges that while Hindu officers refuse to employ Mussalmáns in their offices, their Muhammadan *confreres* are partial to Hindús.

The same.

29. A correspondent writing to the *Watán* (Lahore), of the 3rd October 1902, endeavours to show that the *Punjab Samáchar* is not right in stating that the Hindu element does not preponderate in the Western Jumna Canal Office (*vide* paragraph 28 of Selections No. 39), and says that it is a fact that not a few relations of the Head Munshi irrigate their lands from the canal.

A suggestion that native newspapers should suggest the name of the next Viceroy.

30. One Sayad Tahawar Husain, writing to the *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 6th October 1902, says that whenever the post of Secretary of State for India or that of Viceroy or a Lieutenant-Governor is about to fall vacant native newspapers should make suggestions regarding the filling thereof. After remarking that Lord Curzon retires in a little over a year and that during His Excellency's Viceroyalty the condition of poor India has remained unchanged, the writer calls upon the Native Press to suggest names for the post to be vacated by Lord Curzon.

31. A Simla correspondent of the *Punjab Samachár* (Lahore), dated the 4th October 1902, reports that the Government of India have declined to consider the appeal of Diwán Mangal Sain, author of the *Mysteries of Naini Tál*, against his dismissal. He adds that subordinate officials heartily sympathise with the Diwán, and are of opinion that the punishment meted out to him is very severe. He further remarks that since the publication of the Urdu translation of the *Mysteries of the Court of London*, which was destroyed by order of Government, the authorities seem to have conceived a bitter hatred of all works bearing the name of "Mysteries."

Dismissal of a clerk for publishing an objectionable book.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th and 13th October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjáz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjáz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	12,201	0	5
Small subscriptions ...	...	92	9	0
Total	...	12,293	9	5

(b)—Home.

2. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th October 1902, says that it is very painful to learn that the grandson of the Lion of the Punjab is in such straitened circumstances that he cannot pay a small debt of forty-five thousand rupees! After remarking that Government is not likely to help the unfortunate Prince out of his difficulties by giving him a part of the value (90 lakhs) of the personal property of his late father, the Editor calls upon the Sikhs to come to the rescue of Victor Dalíp Singh and make suitable arrangements for his future maintenance through the Government of India.

Prince Dalíp Singh's bankruptcy.

3. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), dated the 8th October 1902, writing on the same subject, says that, whatever his faults, the present plight of the Prince is replete with lessons for those who hanker after the good things of this world. It is only natural that the Punjab Press should request Government to pay his debts; but what guarantee is there that he will give up his present ways if this is done? Nevertheless, the Editor is of opinion that for this once Government ought to lend a helping hand to the Prince.

The same.

III.—Native States.

4. A correspondent writing to the *Gulzár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, says that Indian Princes do not make a proper use of the liberty enjoyed by them under the British Government. As a general rule a Native Chief is

Nábagarh affairs.

entrusted with the government of his State when he is only sixteen or thereabouts, or before he has been able to fit himself for his onerous duties. The writer is of opinion that after finishing their education, future rulers of feudatory States should be made to learn revenue and judicial work. He regrets that, so far from this being the case, they are encouraged to indulge in racing, polo, hunting, &c.,—habits which interfere with their legitimate duties. Such Princes are usually mere puppets in the hands of unscrupulous officials. The correspondent then goes on to say that Nálagarh is at present in this unenviable position. Its Rája being unable to read and write, the State is administered by his officials, and the relations between the latter and his subjects are the reverse of what they ought to be. Certain persons recently arrested by the said officials under Sections $\frac{323}{379}$ and 363 (of the Indian Penal Code?) are being subjected to many hardships. Again, another man, whose son was suspected of being an accomplice of the above persons, but who has so far eluded the Police, has been arrested in place of his absconding son and is made to carry heavy loads. The writer concludes by calling upon the Lieutenant-Governor to look into the matter and appoint the Rája's younger brother, who is an experienced and educated man, to some high post in the State.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Muhammad and Christ.

5. The *Anwar-ul-Islám* (Siálkot), of the 1st September 1902, publishes a lengthy communication from "a new convert to Islám—'A Lady'"—who attacks the Christian religion and endeavours to prove that the Bible is not a revealed book.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police and the Delhi Darbár.

6. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1902, speaks of the work the Police will have to perform at Delhi, and says that the occasion is likely to prove a source of loss to them. The Editor understands that they have all been directed to provide themselves with new uniforms befitting the occasion. The majority of them, however, not having the money required, will have to run into debt. Also, it has so far not been made clear whether Police seconded for duty at Delhi will be paid any compensation allowance for dearness of provisions. The Editor suggests that Lord Curzon should direct the Inspector-General of Police to make advances of money to such of the Police as may stand in need thereof, the loans being recovered by instalments.

The Police Commission.

7. The same paper says that the work entrusted to the Police is of a delicate and difficult nature. Although the Police are not without their faults they receive little or no help from the people in the discharge of their duties, and it is to this state of affairs that their malpractices should be ascribed. Moreover, subordinate Police officials receive scant consideration at the hands of their superiors and are not infrequently insulted in the presence of the people. The Editor concludes by calling upon the Police Commission to do something to remedy the evils complained of.

8. The *Bhárat Partáp* (Jhajjar), for September 1902, writing about the shortcomings of the Indian Police, says that the commission of a theft proves a veritable God-send to the guardians of the public peace in this country. The man whose house is broken into has not only to feed the Police, but has also to put up with threats at their hands. Again, not infrequently they threaten to insult his females, and actually do so. They also drag his neighbours into the matter and beat the poor people of the vicinity. Moreover, they seize such occasions to revenge themselves on those against whom they may happen to bear a grudge. The above reasons, adds the Editor, lead thousands of people to refrain from reporting thefts to the Police. Indeed, if it were not penal to conceal thefts, 95 per cent. of the population would prefer to do so, for they are more afraid of the Police than of thieves and dacoits. The Editor is of opinion that the unlimited powers wielded by the Indian Police are responsible for the malpractices of the Force.

The same.

9. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), dated the 15th October 1902, remarks that the present strength of village chaukídárs in the Punjab is insufficient for the requirements of the people, there often being but one chaukídár to two villages. Again, the chaukidárs are paid only Rs. 3 a month, a salary on which they cannot maintain themselves. The Editor calls upon the Police Commission to remedy the evil.

The same.

(d)—Education.

10. The *Sat Dharm Parchárik* (Jullundur), of the 10th October 1902, says that public meetings are being held in all parts of India to protest against some of the recommendations of the Universities Commission. It is, however, to be feared that Lord Curzon is not likely to listen to the people. Anglo-Indian officers have come to believe that by changing the opinions they have once expressed they lower the prestige of Government. Nothing could, however, be more untrue. The Editor then observes that it is foolish to waste time in trying to make the Viceroy or his lieutenants change their views.

The Universities Commission.

11. A correspondent writing to the *Siraj-ul-Akhbár* (Jhelum), of the 13th October 1902, says that candidates for the ensuing Middle School Examination, which commences on the 5th January 1903, will not be able to take part in the Coronation festivities. He suggests that the examination should be held a fortnight later.

The ensuing Middle School Examination of the Punjab University.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, publishes a communication from Sultán Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Sirsa, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections No. 40), says that the zamíndári funds started by Mr. Maclagan and Lieutenant Crosthwaite in the Mooltan District having proved beneficial to the agri-

Government and the zamíndárs.

cultivists concerned, the tillers of the soil throughout the Punjab should establish similar institutions. He also suggests that the proposed agricultural banks should be worked on the same lines as these funds, the rules for working which he then publishes.

13. The *Bhárat Partáp* (Jhajjar), for September 1902, says that Government has been kind enough to put a stop to alienations of land, except amongst the agriculturists themselves. There can be no doubt as to the efficacy of the remedy; but it should not be forgotten that it is a cure for extravagance alone. In India, however, the *zamíndárs* cannot afford to be extravagant: they are hard put to it even to provide food for themselves and pay the land revenue. The soil has become exhausted, while the deficient supply of fodder has led to the death of a large number of cattle; and canals have not only spread sand over the lands irrigated from them, but have also bred disease among the cultivators of these lands.

The same.

(k)—Miscellaneous.

14. The *Ghamkhwár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, remarks that in order to make its inoculation scheme a success Government ought to have appointed as inoculators only those persons in whom the people have perfect confidence. The task has, however, been entrusted to Englishmen who do not enjoy this confidence in the smallest degree. The Editor is of opinion that inoculators have been imported from England merely to provide for some Englishmen at the cost of India. He adds that the impression is general in the country that this arrangement has been made by Lord George Hamilton on his own initiative and without a reference to the Government of India.

The plague.

15. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 8th October 1902, regrets that although inoculation affords protection against the plague, the ignorant among the people seem loth to get themselves inoculated. At first they gave out that those who submitted themselves to the operation died from the effects. Now, however, that this statement has proved to be unfounded, they have given currency to the rumour that inoculation lessens eyesight and virility. The Editor has questioned several inoculated persons on the subject and is in a position to contradict the rumour. He then exhorts his fellow-countrymen to take advantage of Government's inoculation scheme and have themselves inoculated without hesitation.

The same.

16. One Lahori Mal, a Hakím, writing to the *Akhbár-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 16th October 1902, makes similar remarks.

The same.

17. The *Gulshan-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, says that, as has more than once been pointed out in its columns, Government does not intend employing force in connection with inoculation. It is, however, to be regretted that the local public should have come to believe that the operations

is compulsory. The Editor is of opinion that this state of affairs has been brought about by certain foolish friends of Government. He alleges that some of the leading residents of Lahore, whom the authorities have requested to popularise inoculation in the city, not infrequently resort to harshness and threats with the object of making the people undergo the operation. After suggesting that Government should direct the aforesaid gentlemen to discontinue behaving in this manner, the Editor refers to the rumour that inoculation lessens eyesight and virility and regrets that the same should have been set afloat by persons calling themselves "educated." He further remarks that it is being whispered about that persons who bribe the doctors will not be inoculated, but that those who decline to do so will be killed off by having more than the prescribed quantity of the plague serum injected. In conclusion, he remarks that the authorities should do something to set such rumours at rest.

18. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiána), of the 15th October 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 16 of Selections No. 42), advises the people to place no credence in certain absurd rumours set afloat in connection with inoculation. The Editor adds that the operation has everywhere led to good results, and refers to statistics in support of this statement. He also calls upon the sensible section of the population to acquaint their less enlightened neighbours with the advantages of inoculation.

The same.

19. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 11th October 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 14 of the Selections No. 40), says that the only way to popularize inoculation in the Punjab is that, like certain Deputy Commissioners, men of light and leading in the Province should set their less enlightened neighbours an example. As an instance the Editor states that the submission to the operation of the Deputy Commissioner of Jhelum and a Pathán youth, Abdul Gafúr Khán by name, in the presence of a large number of persons had the effect of inducing no less than 19 Muhammadans, 3 Hindús and 3 Christians to get themselves inoculated. After remarking that the majority of the educated already believe in the efficacy of inoculation and that the rest could easily be brought round to that view, the Editor says that, in the case of the ignorant, example would prove better than precept. He would, therefore, urge upon enlightened Punjábís and the local press to exert themselves in allaying popular misapprehensions in connection with inoculation and convince the people of the good intentions of Government.

The same.

20. The *Táj-ul-Akhbár* (Rawalpindi), of the 11th October 1902, reports that a great scare having prevailed at Jhelum in connection with inoculation, the Deputy Commissioner has, for the present, stopped all proceedings in that behalf. The Editor feels confident that this will bring back those residents of the city who have fled to other places for fear of inoculation. He adds that all the persons inoculated on the 28th September last are doing well.

The same.

Alleged preponderance of Hindu officials in the Irrigation Branch of the Punjab Public Works Department.

21. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th October 1902, after referring to the preponderance of Hindu officials in the Western Jumna Canal office, complains that the evil is prevalent throughout the Irrigation Branch of the Public Works Department. After stating that of the 28 Overseers employed in the Branch only 3 are Muhammadans, the Editor says that the total number of Musalmán Overseers in the Public Works Department does not exceed 11. He contends that there is no truth in the allegation that competent Muhammadans are not forthcoming in the Punjab. The present state of affairs is due to the fact that Hindu officials, who have the posts in question in their gift, are in the habit of pitchforking their co-religionists into them even when eligible Musalmán candidates are available. It is, therefore, very necessary that the authorities should look into the matter and remedy the evil.

Supplies for officials on tour.

22. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th October 1902, praises Sir Charles Rivaz for his orders forbidding officials on tour from receiving supplies without paying for them, and says that this is calculated to prove beneficial to the *zamindárs*. The Editor then publishes the substance of the orders referred to above.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore.—5-11-02—70.

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 1st November 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 27th October 1902, says that apparently the Russian Government's desire for diplomatic representation at Kabul is ostensibly a harmless one. Those in the know, however, need not be told that the first object of the Czar's representative would be to undermine British influence and prestige at the Amir's Darbar. After remarking that Russia's reply to Great Britain's last letter on the subject is anxiously awaited, the Editor says that so far as possible the British Government will maintain the present state of affairs. He adds that the *Pioneer* refers to the hatching of some intrigues at Kabul, but that no details have been received yet.

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th October 1902, writing on the same subject, states that the late Amir was of opinion that the Russian invasion of India, even though it took place through Persia, would be fraught with danger to the Afghans. Indeed, it was a firm conviction of His Highness that the safety of Afghanistan was indissolubly bound up with the British possession of India. No thinking person can gainsay this, and so long as the rulers of Kabul share the conviction no move on the part of the Russian Government need alarm lovers of peace. However much the Muscovites may strengthen their possessions and extend their railways in Central Asia, they cannot hope to be able to fight India and Afghanistan combined during the present generation. And it is a matter for satisfaction that "our neighbours" are not ignorant of this. In fact, it is for this reason that the Russians' advance to within sight of Herat,—the key of both India and Afghanistan,—and their practical possession of Khorasan have not led to any disquiet or alarm. The Editor then goes on to say that although it is almost certain that the Czar will one day strike a blow for the possession of India, the fact that the Afghans, Baluchis and Persians consider Great Britain and Afghanistan more than a match for Russia and are favourably disposed towards the stronger party will hold His Majesty back for some time to come.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1902, announces that it has sent to Turkey a further remittance of Rs. 2,850 towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund. In the letters accompanying the remittance have been given the names of Munshi Niáz Ahmad and others entitled to receive medals from the Sultan.

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The same paper of the 17th and 27th October 1902 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 3rd October 1902 ...	2,690	8	4
Small subscriptions	272	0	0
Total ...	2,962	8	4
Deduct amount remitted to Turkey on the 4th October	2,879	4	0
Balance in hand	83	4	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey up to the present ...	9,332	5	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	9,415	10	2

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th and 27th October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	12,293	9	5
Shekh Abdul Ruf, son of Khan Bahadur Shekh Khuda Bakhsh, Bazar Sufia, Amritsar	75	4	0
Small subscriptions	65	11	0
Total ...	12,434	8	5

(b)—Home.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th October 1902, states that some members of the Indian Contingent that went to London on the occasion of the King-Emperor's Coronation were sent to Liverpool, Manchester, Edinburgh, &c., to see the sights. The first batch to visit the capital of Scotland consisted of 250 men who were treated in a hospitable manner. The 50 sepoys, however, who visited the city some time later were not accorded proper treatment. Munshi Aziz Ahmad writes to say that the authorities concerned made an invidious distinction between the Indian and Colonial soldiers. The former had to walk, but the latter were conveyed through the streets in carriages. Again, while the Colonials were lodged in palatial buildings their comrades from India were put up in stables, which caused pain not only to the Indian students in Edinburgh, but to the majority of the residents of that city. The Munshi adds that it is under contemplation to bring the matter to the notice of the authorities through the British Press.

Inconsiderate treatment of native soldiers at Edinburgh.

III.—Native States.

Education in Native States.

7. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th October 1902, dwells on the backward condition of education in the territories of Native Chiefs and regrets that Kashmir, which ranks among the foremost Feudatory States, is not better off in this respect. It can boast of only two High Schools, but even these are in a very wretched condition. A few years back an Arts College was opened at Jammu, but was closed on the ostensible ground of want of funds, although the institution did not cost the State much. After remarking that Patiala and Bahawalpur, which are far smaller States than Kashmir, maintain a College each, the Editor suggests the establishment of at least two Colleges in the Happy Valley and calls upon the State Council to look into the matter without delay.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The coming session of the National Congress.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th October 1902, states that there is very little prospect of the next session of the National Congress proving a success, and that the coming Delhi Darbar has engrossed a share of the attention of the supporters of the movement. It is under contemplation to hold the meetings of the Congress before the dates fixed for the purpose, so that intending visitors to the Darbar may be able to carry out their wishes. The proposal does not, however, appear to be feasible and is not likely to be adopted. But the Reception Committee is confronted with a still more serious difficulty, namely, great indifference is being shown in subscribing to the expenses of the ensuing Congress Session. There are great *Seths* and *Sahukars* in Ahmedabad, but they are not among the admirers of the Congress, especially as they know that it does not enjoy the respect and confidence of Government. The *Indian Mirror* of Calcutta has written a strongly-worded article inveighing against them and holding them up to public opprobrium; but the use of harsh language is not likely to prove of any avail. Besides, the Bengalis themselves ought to feel ashamed of having held no meeting of their Provincial Conference this year.

The Nadwata-ul-Ulema.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th October 1902, reports that the Amritsar session is expected to bring in about Rs. 6,000 to the Nadwa.

The Dasehra at Qaim Gang.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th October 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that on the occasion of the last Dasehra the Hindus of Qaim Ganj (in the United Provinces?) were, not, on a representation by the local Muhammadans, allowed to hold the *Ramlila* procession. He adds that the Muhammadan element preponderates in the public offices of the town; that the Musalman residents of the place have formed themselves into a clique to terrorize their Hindu neighbours and that they are supported in this by the Police. Commenting on this letter the Editor calls upon the authorities concerned to look into the matter and bring about a reconciliation between the Hindus and Musalmans of Qaim Ganj. Seeing, however, that it takes two to make a quarrel, he is of opinion that there must have been some reason for the Muhammadans to ask the authorities to forbid the Ramlila procession.

11. One Charan Dás, writing to the same paper of the 25th October 1902, complains that of late *shikaris* have been after the peacocks at Hariana, and that not one of these birds is now to be seen in the town. The writer requests Government to look into the matter.

Killing peacocks at Hariana.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), dated the 16th October 1902, praises the Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces for his orders directing that cases instituted against certain Police officials and Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars should invariably be tried by experienced Magistrates. The Editor suggests that His Honour's example should be followed in other Provinces, to ensure thorough investigation of cases launched against the officials in question, and also to prevent the accused suffering through the inexperience of trying Magistrates. He adds that orders like those under reference are calculated to prevent the institution of unfounded cases, and deter Police and Revenue officials from resorting to illegal practices.

Trial of cases against Police and Revenue Officers.

13. The same paper suggests that, like their brother officials in other branches of the public service, members of the Judicial *amla* should not be allowed to serve in places of which they happen to be residents. Again, none of them should stay at one station for more than a limited time. After remarking that the adoption of the above suggestion would be certain to be welcome to the public, the Editor observes that Readers in Law Courts should be transferred every five years.

Transfers of members of Judicial *amla*.

(b)—Police.

14. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1902, says that it is simply impossible for the Judicial and Civil Officers of Government to realize the hardships which the Police have to undergo daily in the performance of their duties. It would appear that the organisation of the Police Force was undertaken at a very inauspicious time, for not only can the members thereof know no rest, but they are distrusted and looked down upon by both the authorities and the people. The Editor then endeavours to prove that although the work performed by the Police is of a more difficult and responsible character than that entrusted to the employés of any other department, the salaries paid to them are wholly insufficient for their maintenance. He adds that all Police officials are not dishonest and untrustworthy, and that the conduct of such of them as resort to oppression and bribery is due to the following causes:—

The Police Commission.

(1) The low salaries paid to the Police.

(2) The defective training of Police officials.

(3) The insufficient strength of the Police Force.

(4) The indifference with which superior Police Officers treat their subordinates.

(5) The peoples' as well as the authorities' distrust of the Police.

(6) The rule regarding the judging of a Police official's work by the percentage of convictions obtained in the cases *chalaned* by him.

The Editor further remarks that (1) and (6) deter respectable men from entering the Police service, and that those of them who have joined the Force are cursing their luck. He goes on to say that the charge most frequently levelled against the Indian Police is that they are wanting in detective ability. It is complained that their sole method of working out a case is to beat the supposed culprit with the object of making him confess; and that this frequently leads to the subjection of innocent persons to undeserved hardships. The Editor is of opinion that Government and the people are themselves to blame for this deplorable state of affairs. The former has so far done nothing to teach Police officials a detective's work, while the latter render them no help in the arrest of criminals. He also alleges that Police Officers, both European and Native, who have had occasion to deal with villages will bear testimony to the fact that it is simply impossible to work out a case successfully by following the existing Criminal Procedure Code. He further remarks that not a few members of the Police Force resort to illegal practices merely to please the authorities, for no Police official, however honest or God-fearing, is considered efficient unless he secures a large number of convictions.

15. "A Zamindar" writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th October 1902, states that in those cases of theft in which the property stolen is not worth much, the parties robbed make no report to the Police, for if they do the Police not only do not try to recover the stolen property but take from the complainants the little they have left. Again, when the property carried away is of considerable value, but cannot be recovered, the Police not infrequently turn round and threaten to prosecute the injured man for having made a false report to them. After remarking that a few years back an incident of this nature took place in his own sister's house, the correspondent says that the proposal to increase the strength and pay of village chaukidars cannot lead to any good result. Its only effect, he alleges, will be to add still further to the already heavy burdens of the agricultural population.

The same

Another "Zamindar," correspondent of the same paper, remarks that the Police cannot be expected to give up their corrupt practices even if their salaries are increased. He is also of opinion that they are unable to work out cases successfully except with the help of the zamindars. Accordingly, he suggests that every *thana* should have attached to it a well-informed and able Zaildar, who should annually receive a handsome reward in cash. The writer further suggests that no Police Station should be without a tracker, to be rewarded like the aforesaid Zaildar. Again, to every *thana* there should be attached a jirga consisting of 14 respected Lambardars, and it should be the

duty of this body to initiate all proceedings under Section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code. All cases, in which the Police fail to adduce complete evidence against the accused, should also be referred to this jirga and decided according to its finding.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

16. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 18th October 1902, says that the local public is anxiously waiting for the Punjab Government's orders on the proposal to reduce the number of native Municipal Commissioners in Lahore. Copies of the resolutions adopted by the Rate-payers' Association on the subject have reached Government and an acknowledgment for the same has been received. Government has also been formally informed of the unanimous opposition the proposal has elicited from the local Municipality. Now, therefore, that the Lieutenant-Governor has come to realize that the contemplated change is based merely on the personal views of the Deputy Commissioner and that the Lahore public is bitterly opposed to the same, His Honour should not delay his decision in the matter. The Editor then goes on to say that the proposal has been made on the sole ground that native Municipal Commissioners oppose the expenditure of money required for the sanitation, &c., of the civil station. If this ground is held to be convincing, the Editor would be glad to see a separate Municipal Committee formed for the civil station. He is, however, afraid that this will not serve the end the proposal is intended to secure, for in the case suggested by him the requirements of the civil station would have to be met from the Municipal revenues derived from the white population alone, whereas the real object in view seems to be to secure for the station a considerable part of the Municipality's income from the native residents of the city. After remarking that it is scarcely just that the money realised from natives should be spent for the benefit of Europeans, the Editor asks the Punjab Government to call for the following information :—

The proposal to reduce the native element on the Lahore Municipal Committee.

(1) What part of the Municipal revenue of Lahore is contributed by the European population?

(2) What expenditure the Municipality incurs on the sanitation, &c., of the quarters inhabited by the said population?

A comparison of the two amounts will convince Government of the fact that the expenditure on the civil station already consumes a considerable part of the Municipal income and that in opposing the grant of more money, native Municipal Commissioners merely do their duty.

(a)—Education.

17. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 29th October 1902, writing about the public meeting recently convened in Madras to protest against the recommendations of the Universities Commission, says that Government had to encounter great difficulties in introducing English education into the country. The rates of tuition fees were fixed very low and in many cases no fee was charged at all, in order to create a desire for education in the minds of the people. The object in view

The report of the Universities Commission.

has been fully attained, seeing that natives are willing to pay higher fees for receiving education and have started a number of aided and unaided schools and colleges in the country. It would, therefore, be a great misfortune if Government were to accept the recommendations of the Universities Commission, and thereby give a check to the stimulus which education has received in India. After remarking that the establishment of private educational institutions is calculated to relieve Government of a part of its burden in regard to the education of the people, the Editor suggests that the authorities should confine their efforts to a supervision of the working of schools, colleges and text-book committees, care being taken that students have not to learn subjects or languages the study of which cannot benefit them. They should be taught Philosophy, History and Science, and that in a more thorough manner, the medium of instruction being a fully developed language.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

The treatment accorded to the Lahore Railway Workshop labourers on the day of the King-Emperor's coronation.

18. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 18th October 1902, says that it has learnt from a reliable source that although the labourers employed in the local Railway Workshops were given a holiday for the 9th August last in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation, they were not paid their wages for that day. Nor is this all. The money thus saved was handed over to the Eurasian employés (of the Workshop?) to enable them to celebrate the occasion by drinking, &c. In other words, the children of the labourers were starved in order to provide wine for the Eurasians. After remarking that this was a gross insult to Indian blood, the Editor says that he cannot bring himself to believe that such an incident has taken place during the time of a vigilant officer like Mr. Finney.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

19. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 18th October 1902, says that at present inoculation claims a considerable share of the attention of the Government of Sir Charles Rivaz. His Honur is aware that the success of the scheme is largely dependent on the experience, personal influence, &c., of Deputy Commissioners. It is, therefore, a matter for surprise that even now these officers should constantly be transferred from one district to another. Government cannot but know that the removal of a Deputy Commissioner from a district which he knows well and his replacement by a new man is calculated to jeopardise the success of the inoculation scheme. After remarking that of late the Deputy Commissioner of Gujrat has been changed no less than three times, the Editor calls upon the Lieutenant-Governor to look into the matter.

The same.

20. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 22nd October 1902, remarks that of late the plague has been on the increase in the Punjab and advises the residents of the Province to get themselves inoculated before it is too late. The Editor adds that educated and well-to-do Punjabis should consider it a duty to set an example to their ignorant and poor neighbours in the matter. He is also of opinion that if Anglo-Indian officers were to offer themselves for inoculation in the presence of large assemblies of natives the last named would no longer hesitate to undergo the operation.

21. The same paper, of the 29th October 1902, publishes a communication from a Doctor Zahur-ud-din, of Rohtak, who gives a brief history of the plague, and says that there is no truth in the popular allegation that Government has framed its plague rules merely to cause inconvenience to the people. The writer would like to know what the authorities could gain thereby, and observes that the above rules are designed only for the good of the people. After remarking that the allegation is ascribable to the dishonest practices of certain Police and Medical officials told off for plague duty, he suggests that only experienced, kind-hearted, courteous and pious men should be selected for this duty. They should also be well advanced in years, seeing that the appointment of young men has proved a failure. Again, the conduct of plague officials should be carefully watched, and those found guilty of malpractices should receive exemplary punishment. In short, it should be seen that they cause nobody inconvenience and make earnest efforts to stamp out the epidemic. After stating that Government has left it to the people to place plague patients under the treatment of English or Native physicians, the writer dwells on the beneficial character of inoculation, remarking that it is the surest safeguard against plague. He adds that there is no truth in the allegation that the operation lessens eyesight and virility. Nay, so far from this being the case, inoculation cures several long-standing diseases, *e.g.*, gout, asthma and cough. The correspondent, therefore, advises the people to lay aside their prejudices and get themselves inoculated as the most certain way of securing immunity from the plague.

The same.

22. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 29th October 1902, takes the local Municipality to task for neglecting the sanitation of the town at a time when plague is raging there. After remarking that the impure water in the Santhoksar tank and the dirty lanes and stinking drains of Amritsar are likely to add to the virulence of the epidemic, the Editor calls upon the local city fathers to look to the sanitary condition of their respective wards.

The same.

The same paper says that the Deputy Commissioner recently invited the gentry, journalists and physicians of Amritsar to a conference and explained to them the advantages of inoculation. As a result of this the members for Ward No. 2 convened a public meeting of the residents of the city at the Town Hall with the object of popularising the operation among their fellow-townsmen. Unfortunately, however, after Lala Gopal Das, Bhandari, had finished his speech in support of Government's inoculation scheme, Hakim Abu Turab got up and opposed the measure, thereby rendering the meeting a failure. The Hakim based his opinion on a certain medical work and asserted that inoculation had in nowise proved efficacious. A meeting of the residents of Wards Nos. 11 and 12 was called the same day, but with no better result.

23. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 29th October 1902, says that the people are averse to getting their womenfolk inoculated by male doctors and advises the Sialkot Municipality to engage the services of a lady inoculator for a month or so. The Editor adds that the expenditure of money for the welfare of the public is justifiable in every way.

The same

24. The *Khair Khah-i-Hind* (Delhi), of the 16th October 1902, after remarking that both the public and the press are grateful to Lord Curzon for having reduced postage on newspapers, expresses the hope that on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar His Excellency will confer medals on the proprietors of those Vernacular papers which have been in existence for the last 22 years or longer, but which have never been prosecuted for libel. The Editor is of opinion that this will not only constitute a fitting recognition of the said papers' services to Government and the people, but will also exercise a sobering influence on the proprietors of such papers as are prosecuted for libel every now and then.

The Delhi Darbar and Vernacular newspapers.

25. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th October 1902, says that there is no truth in the allegation that competent Muhammadans are not forthcoming for Government service. Unfortunately for the Prophet's followers, however, their claims in respect to public appointments are being overlooked even now. As an instance, the Editor refers to the *Observer's* complaint that there are only two Muhammadan Jailors— and those of the 4th Grade—in the whole of the Punjab. He adds that this state of affairs is due to the fact of the office of the Inspector-General of Prisons, Punjab, being manned almost entirely by Hindus, who take special care to prevent the entry of non-Hindus into the Department. He then suggests that the only way to remedy the evil is that Muhammadan Assistant Jailors promoted to the posts of Jailors should be replaced by their co-religionists.

The preponderance of Hindu Jailors in the Punjab.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—8-11-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged		12,434	8	5
Through Hafiz Syad Muhammad Shah, Kasur, Lahore District		500	0	0
Small subscriptions		27	12	0
Total ...		12,962	4	5

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st October 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 24th October 1902 ...	83	4	4
Small subscriptions	35	8	0
Total ...	118	12	4
Add amount already remitted to Turkey ...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	9,436	2	2

3. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 25th October 1902, reprints an Article from the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), in which the Amir is taken to task for refusing to subscribe towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund, and it is alleged that his recent gift to the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam of Lahore (*vide* paragraph 6 of Selections No. 37) is intended merely to win the hearts of Indian Musalmans. After advising the Anjuman to decline the gift, the article adds that Habibullah Khan's attitude towards the aforesaid Railway shows clearly enough that His Highness, like Russia, does not view the project with favour. The writer in the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* quotes an extract from the *Shams-ul-Akhbar* of Madras to show that the Amír is unwilling to give anything for the Hedjaz Railway. Commenting on the above, the Editor remarks that there is no necessity for the Rewari newspaper to be so angry with the ruler of Kabul, as possibly His Highness intends taking some special step in connection with the Hedjaz Railway. Various misapprehensions are entertained in regard to the Railway in question, and probably this consideration has so far prevented Habibullah Khan from giving money for the project. The best course to follow in the circumstances would be to respectfully urge upon His Highness the desirability of extending his help to the Railway. The Khan of Dir having subscribed Rs. 10,000 towards the Fund, the Amir may be depended upon to show greater liberality in the matter.

The same.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st November 1902, after referring to the *Times of India's* report regarding the arrest of Prince Nasrullah Khan and the Governor of Kandahar by order of the Amír, remarks that it would seem that His Highness has come to distrust everybody. The Editor adds that certain Anglo-Indian newspapers are of opinion that the arrests have something to do with the efforts of Russia to secure diplomatic representation at Kabul. At all events, he would suggest that the Muscovites should not be allowed to approach Afghanistan as being the safest way to maintain peace and order in India and the Amír's territories.

Afghanistan affairs.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st October 1902, reprints an article from the *Mashir Deccan* in refutation of a communication in the *Times of India* defending Mr. Walker, Financial Adviser to the Nizam. The *Mashir* is of opinion that the said officer may be a good financier, but that a far better one is wanted to put an end to the financial embarrassments of Hyderabad. That paper alleges that instead of effecting desirable retrenchments, Mr. Walker has been cutting down items of expenditure which are indispensable, having regard to the importance of the State; and he has been taking no steps to place the State revenues on a more satisfactory footing.

Hyderabad affairs.

6. The *Punjab Organ* (Siálkot), of the 29th October 1902, states that all sections of His Highness' subjects seem to be convinced that full powers will be restored to the Maharaja of Kashmir on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar. This would be an act of bare justice, seeing that the present ruler of the Happy Valley is conspicuous for his loyalty, ability and benevolence.

Kashmir affairs.

7. The *Patiala Akhbar* (Patiala), of the 24th October 1902, says that the Raja of Jind is a model ruler and kind and courteous gentleman. The services rendered by the Raja in connection with the Tirah Expedition and the Transvaal War are referred to, and Government is requested to confer some title on His Highness in recognition of these services.

Jind affairs.

8. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 1st November 1902, says that some of its readers may have seen in the *Tribune* and the *Akhbar-i-'Am* an advertisement inviting applications for a variety of posts in the Bilaspur State. The advertisement appeared over the signature of Lala Hari Chand Chopra, Prime Minister of the State. This is the gentleman who acquired considerable notoriety in connection with famine relief distributions, of which the Local Government is not ignorant. The writer then goes on to say that the advertisement is a bogus one and is intended to convey the idea that Bilaspur is a well managed State. As a matter of fact, however, the State is unable to entertain more servants, for its "treasury" is absolutely empty and the Raja cannot pay even the interest on his debts. After alleging that the State officials have not been paid their salaries for the last nine months, the correspondent suggests that the sum of Rs. 75,000, which is to be paid to the Raja on account of the price of a certain piece of land taken up for the Simla-Kalka Railway, should be distributed among His Highness' creditors.

Bilaspur affairs.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

9. The *Mulla Ja'far Zatalli* (Lahore), of the 5th (received on the 31st) October 1902, states that in his *Asala-i-Auham* Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian remarks that he stands in need of 100,000 soldiers, of which only 5,000 have so far been given him. It is not easy to understand what purpose the 100,000 soldiers required by the Mirza are to serve and whom he intends them to fight. Although, adds to Editor, a visionary like "the Prophet of Kadian" cannot be expected to work any political mischief, still his madness makes him a dangerous man. It is to be regretted that notwithstanding this and in spite of the fact that he offends both Muhammadans and Christians by speaking disrespectfully of Christ in every one of his writings, Government should take no notice of his conduct.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

The paper proceeds to ridicule Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's pretensions, and says that none of the prophecies so far made by him have been fulfilled. Indeed, in whatever direction he has turned he has invariably been received with a "shower of shoes". Be it said to his credit, however, that no amount

of shoe-beating can disconcert him. Regarded from this point of view, therefore, he is one of the wonders of the century, and the Managers of the Chicago Exhibition committed a great mistake in leaving out "this unearthly animal." The Editor then goes on to say that the Mirza's shameless conduct in connection with his prophecy regarding the death of the late Munshi Abdulla Atham prompts him to administer to that worthy "two hundred blows with a shoe." Being, however, disinclined to adopt this course he will content himself merely with saying, "Mirza, mayest thou be confounded, and confounded thoroughly!" He then publishes some verses in which "the Prophet of Kadian" is called "accursed", "shameless" and "a second Satan." He is also threatened with being made to dance like a bear, and is advised to give up "misinterpreting" (the Qoran). Again, he is told that he is a disciple of the Devil, and that only dúms, kanjars, greengrocers, butchers and Atheists respect him. It is then stated that his sole object in life is to fleece people, and he is asked to "blacken his face and ride a donkey."

The same.

10. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 31st October 1902, publishes extracts from the diary of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who remarks that there is no language into which Christians have not translated the Bible and in which they have not given publicity to their false beliefs. Again, they have spread much wickedness and impurity in the world through their writings, while they are inimically disposed towards Islam. The Mirza then endeavours to prove that by the "Anti-Christ" spoken of in the Qoran is meant the followers of Christ. He adds that Christians are the unrelenting foes of the Muhammadan religion, and that those who understand their policy and are aware of their cunning and deceitful ways know that their opposition to that faith has reached its climax. He says that even the hospitals opened by Christians have for their object the undermining of Islam. He asserts that it was foretold by all the prophets that plague would break out during the time of the promised Messiah. He further asserts that the epidemic is intended to kill off people for having rejected God's messenger (himself) and that it will be most virulent in the Punjab, as the residents of this Province were the first to accuse and discredit him. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad then goes on to say that the only weapon wherewith it is possible to vanquish Christians and break the Cross is that which has been vouchsafed unto him by God. It may be that Mussalmans do not care what befalls their religion, but the Almighty does, for it is His garden and is being laid waste. A sense of self-respect, therefore, has prompted Him to look after its protection, and with this object He has inaugurated a movement (the Mirza's cult) which no one can withstand.

The Aryas and Hindus.

11. The *Arya Gasette* (Lahore), of the 30th October 1902, publishes a communication from one Jagmena Das, B.A., who says that the disunion existing among the Hindus was the cause of foreigners invading and conquering India. But, notwithstanding the terrible lesson which the incident teaches, disunion still prevails in the land, particularly amongst those who call themselves enlightened and educated; nay, even amongst the "chosen people" who have taken upon themselves the task of regenerating India—the Aryas. The writer then refers to the adverse criticism by the *Bharat Bhoshan*, Meerut, of a recent speech

by Lala Lajpat Rai of Lahore, and says that instead of prompting union between the Aryas and Hindus, such writings still further widen the gulf separating them. He contends that the Lala was right in applying the word "Hindu" to both the said sections of the people, as practically there is no difference between the Aryas and Hindus, both believing in the same Vedas. The Correspondent further remarks that in asserting that in order to form themselves into a nation a people must believe in the same religion, observe the same festivals and belong to the same race, the lecturer was giving voice only to what eminent scholars have said on the subject.

VII.—General Administration.

(b)—*Police.*

Uniform of Police Constables in the Punjab.

12. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 24th October 1902, states that the uniform worn by Police Constables in the Punjab resembles mourning garments, and that by not a few it is called "Satan's livery." Besides, the *khâki* knickerbockers worn by constables become stained with the colour from their blouses, and the unfortunate men have, every now and then, to spend something out of their scanty earnings to renew them. The Editor then suggests that the uniform of constables should be *khâki*.

(d)—*Education.*

The report of the Universities Commission.

13. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st October 1902, remarks that the majority of the recommendations made by the Universities' Commission are likely to be rejected owing to the agitation raised against them in the Bengal press. Indeed, the letter addressed by the Government of India to the various Local Governments on the subject leaves no room for doubt as to this. The Editor adds that true well-wishers of the country are in favour of the adoption of the Commission's recommendations for these are calculated to improve the outturn of Indian Universities. They would have welcomed even more drastic measures in order to ensure colleges imparting better education.

The abolition of the Middle School Examination in the United Provinces.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st October 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer takes native newspapers to task for making no protest against the proposed abolition of the Middle School Examination in the United Provinces. He adds that the proposal is one step towards the realisation of the object of Government that tuition fees should be so enhanced as to prevent poor boys from receiving education. In other words, Government is of opinion that the poor do not stand in need of education and that only the well-to-do, no matter if they are butchers or cobblers, should be educated. This seems to imply that Government would leave the respectable and the poor to their fate, for in these days the majority of the well-to-do are persons of low extraction. The correspondent then goes on to say that the proposed change has spread consternation throughout the United Provinces and has emptied schools of about half their pupils. He, therefore, requests Sir James La Touche to look into the matter, and let the present state of affairs continue.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st October 1902, says that although the erection of a bridge over the Kabul River and the extension of the Railway to Dhar will be certain to facilitate the journey to Malakand, &c., the real object in view, *viz.*, the mobilisation of troops, does not seem possible of realisation, seeing that the Railway in question has been constructed on a narrow gauge, and is not suited for the transport of horses. Besides, the trains running over it travel so slowly that it would not take 10,000 troops longer to march to Dargai. The timing of this Railway is also very inconvenient, while arrangements for the supply of refreshments are also unsatisfactory.

The Nowshera-Dargai Railway.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

16. The *Patiala Akhbar* (Patiala), of the 24th October 1902, takes exception to the Viceroy's proposal that no salute will be fired on the entrance of Native Chiefs into the Darbar Hall, and says that the omission of this important ceremony will be looked upon by the Chiefs as derogatory to their dignity. The Editor therefore endorses the *Nayyar-i-Azim's* suggestion that salutes should be fired.

The Delhi Darbar.

17. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 8th November 1902, remarks that inoculation being the only preventive against plague so far discovered, the people should hasten to take advantage of the discovery. The epidemic, adds the Editor, can be stamped out if Government and the people combine. The former has done its duty in the matter, and it remains for the latter to set about performing theirs by undergoing inoculation and observing other precautions to ward off the disease.

The plague.

18. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 1st November 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that the Managers of the Marriage Fund, Hoshiárpur, having embezzled most of the money received by them, have now intimated to the members of the fund that the concern is going to be wound up and can pay only Re. 0-3-4 in the rupee. To make matters worse, those calling for their accounts are asked to go to Hoshiárpur to check the same. The writer requests the Editor to expose the doings of the Managers of the Fund.

A bogus Marriage Fund.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—21-11-02—75.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 15th November 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th and 10th of November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,110	1	8
Through Munshi Aziz-ud-din, Mir Munshi of the British Agency, Chitral	...	195	0	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	34	9	0
Total	...	13,339	10	11*

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 31st October 1902		118	12	4
Small subscriptions ...	...	139	13	0
Total	...	258	9	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	9,575	15	2

* Of this sum Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghanistan affairs.

3. The *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 7th November 1902, publishes the following:—The Amir is our next-door neighbour. There are no fond associations about the past which bind Indians to Afghans, but this is no reason why Indians should not feel concerned in the Afghans' affairs. The *Mahratta* is responsible for the following:—

"There is some trouble brewing in Afghanistan at the present moment, and the trans-frontier populations are agog with unrest and expectation, though no one knows what the next turn will be. Latest news from Kandahar is to the effect that His Highness the Amir has consigned his brother Nasrullah Khan to prison. The latter, it is reported, was sulking for some time at his not getting absolute control of the Afghan Army, notwithstanding his appointment to the chief command. It is further alleged against him that he had put himself in communication with the Russian Officer in Command of the Frontier. The second item of trans-frontier news is that the Governor and the Kotwal of Kandahar are in disgrace, owing, ostensibly, to an old story of embezzlement, but really because they are suspected of being in secret correspondence with the British authorities in Baluchistan. And the third item of news is that the Kandaharese are at present in a ferment of excitement, the chief topic of conversation among them being an anticipated advent of British troops. All this *Khubber* shows which way the wind is blowing over there, and political weather-cock readers will draw their own conclusions from it."

III.—Native States.

Education in Native States.

4. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 6th November 1902, says that it needs no keen observer to discover that education is in a very backward condition in Native States. It is, however, only just to add that the rulers of these States are not alone to blame for the evil, but that their subjects also have so far evinced no interest in the matter. After remarking that private institutions like the Ferguson College, Poona, and the Daya Nand Anglo-Vedic College, Lahore, are supported mainly with money collected from the middle classes, the Editor takes Indian Princes to task for grudging expenditure on education. He is of opinion that every Native State in the Punjab can afford to maintain three or four colleges without having to stint itself. The Editor further remarks that the majority of the employés of the feudatory States being illiterate, are averse to their fellow-subjects being educated, fearing that these might replace them. In conclusion, the Editor refers to the backward condition of education in Kashmir (*vide* paragraph 7 of Selections No. 44), and exhorts Indian Princes to display keener interest in education.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—*Judicial.*

The case against the *Akhbar-i-'Am.*

5. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 8th November 1902, announces that Government has instituted a prosecution for obscene writing against Pandits Gopi Nath and Gobind Sahai. The facts of the case have not transpired

so far; but most probably the complaint is based on "The Mysteries of a Native Chief" published in the *Akhbar-i-'Am* under the heading "*Chu Chu ka Murabba.*" Some time back the Editor drew the *Akhbar-i-'Am*'s attention to the objectionable character of the above articles, but to no purpose. Obscene writing has become part and parcel of Pandit Gopi Nath's nature, and evil was bound to come of it sooner or later.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Plague.

6. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th November 1902, takes the local Municipality to task for neglecting the sanitation of the City at a time when plague is raging there. After referring to the filthy condition of drains and bazars, the Editor urges upon the Conservancy officials to bestir themselves and take steps to remedy the evil.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—25-11-02—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 22nd November 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	13,339	10	11
(1) Through Subedar Mirza Karm Ali Beg, 17th Bengal Infantry, Wano	...	275	0	0
(2) Small subscriptions		24	11	0
Total	...	13,639	5	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated the 14th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 7th November 1902	...	258	9	4
Small subscriptions	...	79	4	0
Total	...	337	13	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	...	9,317	5	10
Grand Total	...	9,655	3	2

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	1,303	3	3
Small subscriptions	32	8	0
Total ...	1,335	11	3

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th November 1902, announces that the Amir is thinking of establishing a 1st class college in Kabul for the education of Afghan boys, and has asked Sufi Ghulam Muhai-ud-din, Agent, Anjuman-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, to secure the services of efficient teachers. The Editor then reprints a copy of the *firman* received by the Sufi on the above subject.

Education in Afghanistan.

III.—Native States.

5. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 15th November 1902, enquires if Lala Hari Chand, the present Wazir of the Bilaspur State, is the person because of whom Mr. Down had to go to England on leave and who on being reprimanded for his conduct in connection with the famine relief distributions had to resign his appointment. The writer also insinuates that the Lala has been appointed to his present post through the machinations of a certain barber, and that a certain European whose antecedents are not unknown to Government had also a hand in the game. As to Hari Chand's management of the State, the people residing in that part of the Punjab are full of complaints against him. Again, the new Wazir having stopped the rations of the inmates of the palace, the Raja's mother has gone away to Arki, while His Highness' Ranis have left for Benares. The correspondent concludes by alleging that Lala Hari Chand is in the habit of illegally dismissing the suits instituted against the State by its creditors.

The present Wazir of the Bilaspur State.

IV.—Kine-killing.

6. The *Arya Gasette* (Lahore), of the 13th November 1902, understands that on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar a memorial is to be presented to the Viceroy praying His Excellency to prohibit kine-killing in India.

The Delhi Darbar and kine-killing.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

7. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th November 1902, remarks that for some time past the relations between Hindus and Muhammadans have been strained, and that "the Hindu-Muhammadan question" is discussed in newspapers almost daily. There is, however, nothing to call for this discussion, and those

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

who keep it alive are committing a serious mistake. They should remember that the country is under the rule of a third party; that their present rulers look upon Hindus and Musalmans with an equal eye; and that consequently the discussion of the above question can serve no useful purpose. After remarking that the state of affairs complained of has created estrangement between the said communities, the Editor states that the persons responsible for the evil chiefly belong to the "society" the members of which are anxious to get themselves dubbed "Leaders of the Nation." He would, however, remind them that their conduct is calculated to encompass the "nation's" ruin, and does not commend itself to the authorities. They should therefore turn over a new leaf, and let Hindus and Muhammadans work unitedly for the benefit of both.

The Amir's recent gift to the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore.

8. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th November 1902, reports that Sardar Muhammad Ismail Khan, the Amir's Envoy, arrived at Lahore on the 9th idem, and was received at the Railway Station by the leading Musalman residents of the city and the students of the local Islamia College. On leaving the train the Sardar shook hands with several of the gentlemen present in a genial manner. Outside the station a procession was formed which started for the Nabha House, where the Envoy has put up, through the Landa and Anarkali Bazars. On the route the passers-by stopped to gaze at the spectacle, the chief attraction being the Envoy's magnificent dress and the Afghan uniform worn by his Sowars. At the Nabha House Haji Shams-ud-din, Secretary, Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, made a speech, thanking the Amir for Highness' recent gift to that institution, as well as Sardar Muhammad Ismail Khan for his efforts in their behalf. In reply the Sardar declared that the gift was merely a foretaste of Habibullah Khan's liberality, and that the latter would render the Anjuman still greater and more permanent help. After this tea was served to the gentlemen present, among whom the only Hindu was Lala Ganpat Rai, Barrister-at-Law.

Golden Temple Affairs.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th November 1902, reiterates its objections to the appointment of Sardar Arur Singh as Manager of the Golden Temple (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections No. 37), and says that the Sardar is pitchforking his own men into the various posts connected with the Temple. For example, he has appointed a barber of his village to the post of *Khásabardar*, while he has dispensed with the services of the *Mali* of the *Guru-bagh*. The Editor then suggests the formation of a Committee composed of Sikh gentlemen to look after the affairs of the Temple. After repeating his remarks about Munshi Sant Ram (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections No. 37), he states that a *Bhagat* residing within the precincts of the Temple has fleeced many women, and carries on intrigues with certain female members of a respectable family of Amritsar.

Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz.

10. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 19th November 1902, remarks that Indian Muhammadans will be extremely glad to learn that Lord Curzon has removed many of the restrictions which were heretofore imposed on the departure of pilgrims to the Hedjaz from plague-infected areas. The Haj will,

therefore, be open during the ensuing season to any Musalman resident of the country, subject of course to certain restrictions. And even these have been imposed merely to prevent European Powers from raising an outcry and bringing pressure to bear on the Sultan to prohibit pilgrims from entering his dominions. The Editor then publishes the substance of the Government Notification on the subject.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A suggestion regarding the disposal of Divisional Judges' criminal work during the month of September.

11. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), dated the 14th November 1902, suggests that in those Divisions the Divisional Judges of which go to the hills outside their jurisdiction during the September vacation, Addititional Divisional Judges should be appointed to dispose of criminal appeals during the said period. Should, however, financial reasons stand in the way of the adoption of this suggestion, the Lower Courts in the Division under reference should abstain from deciding criminal cases during the month of September. But if even this be impracticable these Courts should be directed to release on bail all persons sentenced to undergo imprisonment, so that the latter may not rot in jail till the return of Divisional Judges.

The cost of litigation in India.

12. The *Singh Sahai, Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar) for October 1902, is of opinion that Government should not remunerate itself for administering justice to the people. Should this, however, be impracticable it should recover nothing beyond court-fees, even if the rate thereof has to be enhanced from Rs. 7-8-0 to Rs. 10 per cent. That is the Courts should ask for no further payment for the service of summonses, supplying copies of judicial documents to litigants, the printing of records, remunerating witnesses and commissioners, &c., &c. The Editor adds that the expenses incidental to litigation are impoverishing the people and constitute a calamity to the country. It therefore behoves Government to remedy the evil, inasmuch as it can only expect help from the people if they are well-off themselves. In conclusion, the Editor suggests the introduction of the *Panchayat* system in the Punjab.

(b)—Police.

The Police Commission.

13. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), dated the 14th November 1902, writing about the Police Commission, observes that the well-wishers of the country should hasten to help that body with their suggestions through the Press or by means of pamphlets. It should be remembered that the Police can prove useful to the people only if the latter co-oporate with the former in the suppression of crime. The Editor adds that the low salaries paid to the Police and the consequent unwillingness of respectable men to serve in the Force have made the Police service very unpopular. Again, the practice of judging of the ability of a Police official by the number of convictions obtained by him makes him rapacious and tyrannical, and leads to the trumping up of cases. It is to be hoped that the Commission will devise means to put an end to this state of affairs.

(c)—The Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

14. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), dated the 16th November 1902, complains about the insanitary condition of Amritsar, and says that Darogha Muhammad Din cannot look to the work single-handed. All his assistants being the protegés of the local Municipal Commissioners do not co-operate with him, and when transferred to some less lucrative branch of the Municipal Department get the orders cancelled through the influence of their patrons. In view of the fact, however, that plague is raging in the city and the present Municipal Secretary is new to his work, the local city fathers should take steps to remedy the evil complained of.

The sanitation of Amritsar.

15. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th November 1902, complains of the unsatisfactory condition of the lanes in that city, and alleges that the local sweepers are in the habit of collecting nightsoil wherever they like. This state of affairs should not be allowed to exist, especially as plague is prevalent in the neighbourhood of Delhi and a grand Darbar is shortly to be held there.

The insanitary condition of lanes in Delhi.

(d)—Education.

16. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th November 1902, publishes a communication from one Sa'd-ud-din Haidar, a Mukhtar at Delhi, who endorses the views expressed in a recent issue of the *Sahifa-i-Bijnaur* by a Maulvi Muhammad Ismail on the subject of the proposed age limit for the Entrance Examination. The Maulvi argues that candidates for admission to the Indian Civil Service being allowed to compete for the same up to the age of 23 only, the raising of the age limit in the case of the Entrance Examination will be tantamount to shutting the doors of the said service in the face of natives. Nor is the proposed change calculated to improve the health of the young men studying in public schools and colleges. The present unsatisfactory physical condition of native students is due to lengthy courses of study and stiff University Examinations, and not to their commencing reading at a tender age. The remedy of the evil, therefore, lies in removing these defects and not raising the age limit for Entrance candidates.

The proposal to raise the age limit for Entrance candidates.

17. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated the 14th November 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer deplores the backwardness of the Punjab Zamindars in the matter of education and says that these people have neither the means nor the opportunity of attaining high education. He adds that the number of Primary Schools opened by Government for the education of agriculturists is insufficient, with the result that both in Government service and the professions the Zamindars are conspicuous by their absence. The writer further remarks that the Zamindars can be of great help in the working out of cases, and that high education not being assential to the making of a successful Police official, members of agricultural classes should be entrusted with the task of putting down crime in their respective *ilaqas*, their official designation being *Ilaqadars*.

Education amongst Zamindars.

18. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 13th November 1902, remarks that the teachers employed in the Education Department, Punjab, are paid very small salaries and that promotion is slow. To make matters worse, unlike their comrades in other branches of the public service, they are not granted retiring pensions. They are, therefore, dissatisfied with their present lot and cannot put their hearts into their work. If this state of affairs continues much longer, it will become difficult, if not impossible, to secure the services of competent teachers. The Editor then calls upon the authorities to look into the matter, and suggests that the school-masters in question should be granted retiring pensions.

Grievances of teachers employed in the Punjab Education Department.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

19. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th November 1902, reports that at Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's "evening darbar" on the 20th ultimo the conversation turned on the subject of the plague. The Mirza stated that the place where the epidemic broke out was in the end reduced to the condition of a jungle. Upon this Maulvi Nur-ud-din said that he had read somewhere that the Bar *ilaqa*, which had recently been colonised, bore traces of having been inhabited in olden times, and that it had been depopulated by an outbreak of bubonic plague. The Mirza then observed that the people having lost their faith in God he would like Him to make His existence felt, although thousands should perish thereby. After remarking that the plague could be relied upon to work this miracle, he added that the surest safeguard against the epidemic so far discovered was inoculation. Were, however, the treatment, which is still in the experimental stage, to prove unsuccessful the people would be confronted with a great difficulty. "The Prophet of Kadian" further remarked that Christ had likened the period of his advent to the time of Noah; that he (the Mirza) had also been called Noah by God; that evidently a great deluge was impending and that his ark offered the sole means of escape from the danger. He pointed out that the plague symbolised the said flood, as also the "deadly sword" spoken of in his *Burahin*.

The plague.

20. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th November 1902, regrets that very few members of the *Rais* party in the Punjab should have been invited to the Coronation Darbar. Government can, however, make up for this by conferring titles on the two leading *Raises* of Lahore, Nawab Fateh Ali Khan and Diwan Narindar Nath, who have been honoured with invitations. The titles conferred should be in keeping with the rank and position of these *Raises*.

The Delhi Darbar.

[Confidential.]

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st November 1902, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,639	5	11
Through Munshi Karim Dad, Engine Driver, Shed Nikoro, Uganda Railway	...	123	12	0
Total	...	13,763	1	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated the 21st November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 14th November 1902	...	337	13	4
Small subscriptions	...	126	0	0
Total	...	463	13	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	9,781	3	2

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), dated the 21th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	...	...	1,335	11	3
Small subscriptions	...	...	13	5	0
Total	...		1,349	0	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...		505	15	6
GRAND TOTAL	...		1,854	15	9

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, reports that the Hadda Mulla has settled at Drabgai, and that he is reported to have openly stated that he will preach a *jehad* to the Waziris. It is, however, certain that he will not do so, except with the Amir's permission ; and His Highness cannot be expected to endanger peace on the frontier by granting such permission.

The Hadda Mulla.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

5. A correspondent writing to the *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 24th November 1902, states that the passing of the Land Alienation Act has materially affected the income of the Registration Office at Hafizabad, Gujranwala District, and that the fees realized by that office since the 22nd ultimo amount only to 4 or 5 rupees. No deeds of sale, mortgage, &c., are now presented at that office for registration.

The Land Alienation Act.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Judicial.

6. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), dated the 21st November 1902, says that the Chief Court's instructions prohibiting the adjournment of cases on insufficient grounds are honoured more in the breach than the observance. As an instance in point, the Editor states that although a certain case has been pending in the Court of the District Judge, Gujranwala, for about two years, the evidence of even one party has not been recorded yet.

A judicial complaint.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, alleges that the Octroi Department of the local Municipality is grossly mismanaged, and that the Tahsildar, Hikmatullah, is having everything his own way. The Editor

The Amritsar Octroi Department.

would like the City Fathers of Amritsar to put the following questions to the said official :—

(1) By whom and from where is the paper used in making registers and permits purchased? What quantity of it is consumed in a year, and is it paid for at the market rates?

(2) To how much do the monthly contingent expenses (of the Octroi Department) amount, and how is the money spent?

(3) For how long have certain relations of the Tahsildar been in the Octroi Department, and in what posts?

(4) Who is the Refund Muharrir, and since when has he been working in his present post?

(5) How long has Nazar Ali *alias* Mir Sahib been in the Octroi Department? Was he once employed at Allahabad, and if so, on what charge was he dismissed the service? Did he and Hikmatullah serve in the same Department, and were both turned out on the same charge?

(6) Has the Tahsildar had his *charpoy* brought into the Octroi Office, and has he turned the place into a smoking room?

(7) Were the forms said to have been printed by one Ghulam Muhammad ever received in the Octroi Office, or did the man receive payment for work which he never executed?

(8) What Muharrir is in charge of the weighing machine, and for how long has he held the post? Is he also related to Hikmatullah?

Complaint against certain Municipal Officials of Amritsar.

8. The same paper suggests that the works executed by Tara Singh (now on the Conservancy staff), Dhanpat Rai (Overseer), Ghulam Qadir (Lighting Darogha), Bhagwan Das (Darogha) and Hikmatullah (Octroi Tahsildar) during the time of Mr. Gardiner should be carefully inspected. This, adds the Editor, would show that the above officials have defrauded the Municipal Committee of large sums of money. In case the Committee does not act upon his suggestion, he will himself move in the matter and show that the persons named deserve intant dismissal.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The case of the 9th Lancers.

9. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 25th November 1902, after publishing the substance of the Government *communiqué* regarding the punishment of the 9th Lancers, remarks that Government has tried to show that it was compelled to take the step in the interests of discipline. It is rank cowardice in European soldiers to maltreat weak and helpless natives as the men of the above regiment did their native cook; and it is the duty of Government to put down the evil. It must, therefore, be admitted that no objection can be taken to Government's conduct in punishing the 9th Lancers as it has done.

The salaries of Hospital Assistants.

10. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd November 1902, inquires if the Medical Department is to receive any part of the Rs. 3,00,000 allotted by the Government of India for raising the salaries of public servants in the Punjab ; and if so, what increase of pay is to be given to Hospital Assistants. He would also like to know how the last-named officials should approach the Supreme Government on the subject, and what scale of salaries they should suggest for themselves.

Coronation festivities.

11. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), dated the 22nd November 1902, says that the Lahore Municipality has sanctioned the expenditure of a large sum of money in connection with the Coronation festivities and that most probably subscriptions will also be invited from the local public. In this connection the Editor would like to know why the European residents of the city—official as well as non-official—abstain from giving money for loyal demonstrations, and suggests that steps should be taken to secure the co-operation of the white population on the occasion in question. He is also of opinion that only a small part of the subscriptions collected shoul be spent on illuminations, fireworks, and refreshments. The balance he would invest in warm clothing and blankets to be distributed to widows, orphans, the sick and destitute, as the residents of Ludhiana and other places have decided to do. The Editor further suggests that at the Darbar held at Lahore on the above occasion titles, khillats or *sanads* should be granted to those gentlemen who have rendered service in connection with plague, &c.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—5-1-1903—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,763	1	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	13	5	0
Total ...	...	13,776	6	11*

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 21st November 1902		463	13	4
Small subscriptions ...	...	57	0	0
Total	...	520	5	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	9,837	11	2

* Of this sum Rs. 10,734-12-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A	P.
Balance in hand	...	...	1,349	0	3
Small subscriptions	...	...	9	14	0
Total		...	1,358	14	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey		...	505	15	6
GRAND TOTAL		...	1,864	13	9

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

Afghanistan affairs.

4. A correspondent of the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1902, expresses satisfaction at the new Amir's friendly attitude towards the British Government and at his endeavours to increase the Military strength of Afghanistan. His Highness should remember that until a Military College is established at Kabul, and officers in the Afghan Army taught English, Russian and German, or at least Turkish and Urdu, they can never claim equality with their European comrades. The writer then suggests that Habibullah Khan's requisitions for Professors for the Arts College should be sent to the Aligarh and the Lahore Islamia Colleges, while German or Turkish Military instructors should be imported for the Military College. It is also necessary that the services of foreigners, preferably Egyptians or Turks, should be secured for teaching Military tactics to Afghan soldiers. The Amir should arrange to send thirty Afghan youths annually to Turkey, America, England and Germany to learn medicine, agriculture, the art of war, &c. His Highness is reported to be the possessor of a large quantity of costly jewels. He should remember that the best jewels a monarch can possess in these days are Krupp guns, disciplined armies and well-equipped colleges.

Government and the frontier tribes.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, remarks that although for certain reasons it does not wish to attach undue importance to the punitive expedition recently despatched to the frontier, there can be no denying the fact that ordinary threats have no terror for the turbulent tribesmen. The Government is justified in despatching the expedition and inflicting exemplary punishment on the tribe in fault. It is, however, doubtful if it has chosen the right time to do so, seeing that the Russians are already intriguing on the frontier. Again, certain other reasons also make it necessary for Government to abstain from engaging in a war at the present moment. Having, however, put its hand to the plough it should not look back.

V.—NATIVE SOCIETIES AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

The Dusehra at Qaim Ganj.

6. A correspondent of the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th November 1902, adverting to the *Akhbar-i-'Am's* remarks anent the celebration of the last Dusehra at Qaim Ganj, United Provinces (*vide* paragraph 10 of Selections No. 44), alleges that on the occasion in question the local Hindus wounded the feelings

of their Muhammadan neighbours by burlesquing the character of a religious leader of the latter and speaking disrespectfully of Islam. They also enacted a burlesque of Christianity, in the course of which the following words were used:—"O, ye men, if ye become Christians (each of) ye will get a bungalow to live in, as also a *mem* and a salary of Rs. 30 per month." The matter was enquired into by orders of the head of the district, upon which the Hindus decided to hold a *Ramlila* procession with the object of giving still greater offence to the Musalmans. As this was calculated to lead to a breach of the public peace the local authorities forbade the procession. The writer then endeavours to show that the *Ramlila* procession having never before been held at Qaim Ganj the orders forbidding the same cannot be called illegal.

Golden Temple affairs.

7. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, puts the following questions to the Manager, Golden Temple, Amritsar:—

(1) Why does one Lojan, Gharialia, draw the pay of some half a dozen appointments?

(2) Why is not Munshi Jaswant Rai required to repay the money advanced to him from the funds of several Gurdawaras, and is it true that he is shown special favour through the influence of Munshi Sant Ram?

(3) What truth is there in the rumour that in the dispute regarding the shop attached to the *Baba Sahib*, Munshi Sant Ram pocketed Rs. 50?

The Editor then expresses the hope that Sardar Arur Singh will take steps to prevent such scandals, and make it impossible for the public to say that being himself incompetent he plays into the hands of Munshi Sant Ram.

The God of the Bible.

8. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 27th November 1902, publishes a communication from one Thakar Das, who quotes certain verses from Genesis and ridicules the God of the Bible. He adds that this God is said to have eaten veal, but that a being who kills a useful animal like the cow for the sake of its flesh must have been not God but a diabolical creature. After endeavouring to prove that the Biblical God lacks omniscience, the writer gives the Vedic conception of the Supreme Being. He further remarks that the Aryas do not believe in a God like that of Christians who "goes up" and "comes down," washes his hands and feet, sleeps on bare ground, eats beef and possesses a poor knowledge of things. The Aryas worship an omniscient and omnipotent God; and therefore all seekers after truth should study the Vedas.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

The proposal to levy a house-tax in Gujranwala.

9. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 28th November 1902, is surprised to learn that the Gujranwala Municipal Committee proposes levying a house-tax in order to meet the deficit in its income. The Editor would advise the Committee to effect retrenchment in its expenditure and abstain from taking the above step, which is calculated to entail a special hardship on the poor.

(d)—Education.

Complaint against the Head Master, Municipal Board School, Sialkot.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1902, publishes a communication from a Sialkot correspondent, who alleges that Bhai Ladha Singh, Head Master of the Local Board School, was recently prosecuted on a certain charge reflecting on his morals. He was, however, acquitted without being called upon to produce witness on his behalf, and is still serving in the above school. It is also rumoured that he has recommended the Municipality to dispense with the services of a Hindu and a Muhammadan teacher, whom he suspects of having helped the prosecution. These unfortunate men, who have been in service for about eleven and six years respectively, have been relieved, and their work is being carried on by other teachers, no recess period being allowed to them. The Head Master has made the aforesaid recommendation owing to a falling off in the number of students in the Board School; but this decrease is traceable to the institution of the above case against himself. The writer then suggests the transfer of Bhai Ladha Singh to some other school, and calls upon the head of the Educational Department to look into the matter.

Technical education and Government.

11. A correspondent, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st December 1902, remarks that Government evades the establishment of technical schools and colleges in India by pleading the want of funds. This plea, although technical education undoubtedly costs a great deal, is not valid, seeing that Government can spend money like water on the Frontier, in subsidising the Amir, and in holding Darbars. Nor does it hesitate to increase its military expenditure, or remit crores of rupees to England on account of Home charges, exchange, &c. Nay, the expenses of the Native guests invited to the Coronation in London are also sought to be charged to the Indian revenues. The writer then goes on to say that not a few Government Officers are in the habit of arguing that technical institutions having been unknown in the country in the past, there is no necessity for establishing the same now. These gentlemen, however, forget that India did not stand in need of the said institutions in olden times, for then no country could injure the trade of another. Now, however, foreign countries have killed the industries of India, while the introduction of machinery has had the effect of cheapening the products of labour. Technical education is, therefore, a desideratum now, and it is the duty of Government to look into the matter without delay. The correspondent adds that Government, which ought to have striven to make India prosperous, has, from the very first, been pursuing a policy which has been instrumental in injuring the trade of the country and killing indigenous industries one by one. Simultaneously with the advent of British rule, set in India's period of adversity in this respect. The present rule has benefited the country in a hundred ways, but it has also brought poverty in its train.

The Education Department, Punjab.

12. The same paper of the 28th November 1902 announces that all the schools at present managed by Municipal and District Boards are again to be placed under the direct control of the Educational Department. Besides, all the

posts on the Graded List of the Department are to be made pensionable, while extra allowances will be granted to teachers of a certain class. These changes will be welcomed by every supporter of the cause of education, and are calculated to put an end to many a defect to be found in the aforesaid Department. This is especially true of the proposal to make all graded posts pensionable. This will remove a long-standing grievance, and serve as an incentive to teachers to put their hearts into their work.

(e) Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government and Artesian wells.

13. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th November 1902, after giving a brief history of Artesian wells, advocates their introduction in India for purposes of irrigation. The *zamindars*, however, being too poor to undertake the experiment, especially in tracts where water is found at a very great depth, the Editor would urge upon the Government to take the initiative by deputing geologists to determine localities where these wells could be successfully sunk. District and Local Bodies should be called upon to contribute a part of the necessary expenditure, which is not likely to be very great. The experiment, if successful, will have the effect of banishing famines from large tracts of country. The Editor regrets that while foreign Governments are in correspondence with Mr. Norman (who recently delivered a speech at Calcutta on the subject of the irrigation system of Japan) with a view to introducing Artesian wells in their respective countries, Lord Curzon should evince no interest in the matter, His Excellency's deep sympathies with the *zamindars* notwithstanding.

(f) Railways and Communications.

Grievances of Railway employés.

14. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1902, says that although Lord Curzon has done a great deal to secure convenience and comfort to railway passengers, His Excellency has taken no steps to redress some of the standing grievances of Railway employés in the matter of leave and public holidays. It has become a common practice to require these officials to attend office on gazetted public holidays. The Editor adds that if an equal number of Hindus and Muhammadans were employed at each Railway Station, both could enjoy their respective holidays. Again, the employés in question are sometimes refused leave on urgent private affairs or cannot be granted the same at once owing to the deficient strength of the existing relieving staff. The Editor would suggest the strengthening of the staff in order to meet the exigencies of the Railway service.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The inoculation scheme.

15. A correspondent writing to the *Lahore Púnch* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1902, remarks that although Government has spent lakhs of rupees on its inoculation scheme, the masses continue to regard the operation with suspicion. For example, the ignorant among the people are under the impression that inoculation is the harbinger of plague, and that Haffkine's prophylactic is a deadly poison which kills off the inoculated. It is, however,

a matter for satisfaction that sensible and thinking natives do not share these views and are taking kindly to inoculation. The writer then suggests that the first thing an inoculator should do at every place visited by him is to impress the advantages of the operation on the people. Again, he should first inoculate the local Zaildar, Lambardars, Patwari, Teachers and *Sufedposhes*, and thereby induce the general public to follow their example. Inoculation should, moreover, be performed only by experienced, gentlemanly and honest European Doctors.

The same.

16. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th November 1902, says that ever since Government has changed its former plague policy and left the people to place plague patients under the treatment of whomsoever they like, quite a host of quacks have sprung up in different parts of the Punjab. Amritsar possesses a large number of such medicos, and they are plying their trade without let or hindrance. After deprecating the authorities' conduct in taking no steps to remedy the evil, the Editor remarks that although Government has strictly forbidden the use of force in connection with inoculation, not a few of its servants pay no regard to this. For example, the Registrar of the Punjab University has issued orders requiring candidates for certain examinations to get themselves inoculated, which leaves no room for doubt that undue pressure is being brought to bear on the people to undergo the operation. As to the doings of Tahsildars in connection with the inoculation scheme, these officials seem to consider that their secular and spiritual welfare is dependent on swelling the number of the inoculated by fair means or foul. In support of this the Editor quotes the *Tribune's* report about the mishap at Malkowal, and says that the 25 residents of that village who have died from inoculation were compelled by the Tahsildar of Wazirabad to undergo the operation against their will. He then calls upon Government to make instant inquiries into the matter and lay the results before the public.

The Malkowal accident.

17. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1902, remarks that Government's silence on the point and certain other facts suggest the conclusion that the *Tribune's* report regarding the death of 25 residents of Malkowal from inoculation is true. Those who read this note will undoubtedly come to conceive a dislike for inoculation, to the support of which the *Samachar* has been devoting considerable space. Honesty, however, requires that the Editor should lay bare all the facts connected with the serious occurrence in question. He would also request the Local Government to take the public into its confidence, for the incident is calculated to render inoculation unpopular throughout the Punjab.

The same.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1902, writing about the Malkowal accident, remarks that not the Punjab Government but Dr. Haffkine's laboratory is to blame for the fatal blunder. The Editor would advise Sir Charles Rivaz's Government to publish the true facts of the case in order to reassure the people.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—12-12 02—70.

[Confidential.]

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[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 13th December 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th December 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 28th November 1902	520	5	4
Small subscriptions	27	0	0
Total ...	547	5	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	9,317	5	10
Grand Total ...	9,864	11	2

(b)—Home.

Government and the people.

2. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 5th December 1902, remarks that the present Government of India claims to be more just and more solicitous of the welfare of the people than any former Government. The people can therefore demand that it should levy from them only those taxes and cesses which were recovered by its predecessors. Nay, not even all these imposts, seeing that the British Government regards itself as occupying a higher level of civilization. Again, the natives of the country can demand that the existing Government should confer on them the posts to which they could rise under their former rulers. The Editor then goes on to say that the pre-British Governments of India recovered nothing beyond the land

revenue (⅛th the produce) and small fines inflicted for the commission of certain offences. On the other hand, the people lived in great comfort, and the necessaries of life were very cheap. They were also healthier, freer and more honest, while all the appointments—from the lowest to the highest—in the public service were open to them. Under the present régime, however, they have been burdened with innumerable taxes, while the land revenue is recovered in cash instead of in kind, and whether there is a crop or not. Besides, offences are punished by the infliction of such heavy fines that offenders are sold out of house and home, and, if imprisoned, not infrequently die in jail. After naming over a dozen taxes imposed by the present Government and referring to the corrupt practices of certain classes of public servants, the Editor observes that a native has now to meet more calls on his purse than there are hairs on his body. But what comfort has all this brought him, and what appointments has it thrown open to him? Formerly one man in a family worked for a part of the day and his earnings sufficed to support the whole family. Now every member of a household has to work night and day for a living. Again, the physique of the people has deteriorated considerably and new diseases have made their appearance in the country, while it has become difficult to obtain sufficient wholesome food. A quarter of the people's time, moreover, is wasted in attendance at law courts, and they have perforce to wait on Government Officers and the like. They are also in constant danger of their lives, and not only foreigners but their own fellow-countrymen oppress them. They have lost in religiousness, their characters have deteriorated, and they have contracted several "moral and spiritual vices". Their trade is at a standstill and they are in an extremely critical condition. They have no share in the higher appointments in the public service, and Government continues to regard them as dishonest and corrupt. They may well therefore ask how they have benefited by being under a Government of a higher, better and more civilized type. The officers of Government reply that those among the people who could formerly procure food with difficulty now feed six times a day; that those who toiled night and day now pass their whole time in comfort; and that those who went about in Adam's dress now cover their bodies with costly fabrics and have made great advances in education. But this is not a satisfactory reply. There is nothing to boast of in 25 crores of persons toiling in order that 10 lakhs may live in comfort. The Editor then goes on to say that both natives and Europeans being endowed with similar bodies and faculties, why is it that the former present such a contrast to the latter and are in such a wretched condition? He wishes to know how it is that, while the present Government is of a higher and more civilized type than its predecessors, the people have to undergo greater hardships than formerly.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

3. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 1st December 1902, remarks that there is no truth in the report published by Anglo-Indian newspapers that the Hadda Mulla intends preaching a *Jehad* to the Waziris. Najam-ud-din is an old and noted Mulla, and has never inflamed the tribesmen with the object of making them wage a religious war. The respect shown to him by the Amir is of the same character as that shown him by his disciples. The only extraordinary thing about it is

The Amir and the Hadda Mulla.

that the new ruler of Kabul should have sent for the Mulla and showed him honour in the very first year of His Highness' reign. It is, however, quite certain that neither Habibulla Khan nor Najam-ud-din favours the waging of a *Jehad* against the British Government, and that the motives of both are above suspicion.

The same.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), dated the 8th December 1902, refers to the reports that the Amir has granted the Hadda Mulla a pension of Rs. 16,000 a year, and that, in addition to making a present of Rs. 5,000 to the relations of Umra Khan, His Highness intends raising a regiment from Jandol and Bajaur. The Editor is gratified to see that the rule of Habibulla promises to prove of far greater moment to Afghanistan and the tribal territories than was expected. The forebodings that His Highness would not be able to keep an unruly people like the Afghans in hand and that his accession would lead to complications at Kabul and on the frontier have been completely falsified.

The same.

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th December 1902, writing on the same subject, remarks that it leaves every one to draw his own conclusions as to the use to which the pension granted to the Hadda Mulla is likely to be put. The Mulla will distribute the money among Shekhs, &c., of his own choosing, and it is easy to conceive how greatly this will increase his influence over his followers. Government alone can say whether this proceeding on the part of Habibulla Khan is to its liking, but there can be no doubt that the late Amir followed quite a different policy in his treatment of Mullas, whom he rated at their proper worth and would not subsidise. Nor was he a bigot who would denounce anyone as an infidel for a trifling cause. His successor, however, has insisted on the Hadda Mulla backing up the leading Shekhs, &c., in the latter's country, so as to preserve their influence over the masses and profit thereby in time of need. The British officers on the frontier are anxious to keep the tribesmen from the influence of bigoted Mullas, but the new ruler of Kabul would extend and strengthen this influence. Presumably the authorities do not approve of his policy, but what does the Amir care for this? He has to consult his own interests alone.

IV.—Kine-killing.

Kine-killing and the Delhi Darbar.

6. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 6th December 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer urges Government to make its Hindu subjects happy by prohibiting kine-slaughter in India in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation. He adds that but for this slaughter of kine, British rule would have been veritably the "Reign of gods."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The National Congress.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 6th December 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that many literate natives, let alone the ignorant masses, are not aware of the existence of the National Congress. The result is that the general public contribute nothing towards the expenses of Congress

meetings, and a few well-to-do educated persons have to find all the money required for the purpose. The only way to remedy the evil is to keep up a persistent agitation in every city and town throughout the year, with the object of bringing the masses into the Congress camp. This result can be achieved only by appointing a permanent Indian Congress Committee, as was proposed by Mr. Harkishan Lal, of Lahore, at the Calcutta Session of 1901.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

A judicial complaint.

8. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st December 1902, says that Section 562, Criminal Procedure Code, authorises the Courts to release first offenders of a certain class on probation of good conduct instead of sentencing them to any punishment. Native Magistrates, however, pay no regard to this and prefer to pass sentences of punishment against such offenders. Appellate Courts should take due notice of this irregularity.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

A complaint against the Octroi Tahsildar, Amritsar.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st December 1902, alleges that Munshi Hikmat-ulla, Octroi Tahsildar, Amritsar, is in the habit of accepting illegal gratifications through certain of his relations. For example, Naib Darogha Varis Ali (who is reputed to be the brother of the Munshi's wife) serves as an intermediary between the Tahsildar and the local shop-keepers. The Editor also asserts that Hikmat-ulla's treatment of his honest and hard-working subordinates is marked with injustice and severity. After quoting instances in support of his assertion, he says that it is significant that of the seven employés in the Octroi Department who were degraded about a year ago, only Vali Muhammad (Muharrir) and Ghulam Jilani (Naib-Doragha) have been pardoned and given their former salaries. He promises to explain at some future time the real cause of the degradation of the above officials, as also to expose the malpractices of Varis Ali (Naib-Darogha) and Nazar Ali (Muharrir).

The late Secretary of the Amritsar Municipality and one of his *protegés*.

10. The same paper says that one Ghulam Muhammad Akhtar made quite a fortune for himself during the time of Mr. Gardiner. The net profits realized by him out of a certain contract in connection with the last Cattle Fair alone amounted to Rs. 6,000. The Editor suggests that in future this contract should be sold by public auction, remarking that this will have the effect of increasing the Municipality's income by several thousand rupees.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government and the zamindars.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th December 1902, is of opinion that no permanent improvement can be effected in the condition of the zamindars so long as the practice of recovering from them the major part of the public expenditure is continued. The methods which Government has been devising to better

their lot serve at best the purpose of stimulants administered to a confirmed invalid. The only way to remedy the evil is to shift part of the agriculturists' burden on to the shoulders of the urban population and receive from them only such taxes as are paid by the tillers of the soil in Europe and America.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Grievances of Railway employés.

12. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 6th December 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 14 of Selections No. 49), says that notwithstanding the fact that Government does not interfere with the religions of its subjects, the employés of the North-Western Railway are required to work on public holidays and cannot participate in the observance of several of their religious rites and festivals. Nor is this all. It is very seldom that they are granted leave on occasions of marriages and deaths, which is very hard on them. The Editor then reiterates his suggestions about the employment of an equal number of Hindus and Muhammadans at every station, and raising the strength of the relieving staff.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Income tax.

13. The *Mohyal Gazette* (Kala), of the 15th November 1902, remarks that the method of assessing the income tax is very objectionable, and that in not a few cases the destitute are assessed and well-to-do persons under-assessed. Again, the assessing officers are under the impression that by increasing the receipts from this tax they will be pleasing both their superiors and Government. The Editor then suggests that the income tax should be repealed in honour of the Coronation. Should this, however, be impracticable the existing method of assessing the tax should be thoroughly revised. In this connection he would make the following suggestions :—

(*a*) That the objections presented to Deputy Commissioners in connection with the assessment of the tax should not be referred to assessing officers for enquiry and report.

(*b*) That the persons, on the strength of whose statements the objectors were assessed, should be examined on oath in presence of the latter before these are called upon to substantiate the objections.

(*c*) That in case of an objector succeeding in proving his case he should be allowed costs.

The plague.

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st December 1902, remarks that the attention the Viceroy is paying to the forthcoming Coronation Darbar ought to have been devoted to the suppression of the plague. The epidemic is bringing about the same dire results in India as were produced by the Boer War in Great Britain. Households are breaking up, parents are losing their children and wives are becoming widows. But the analogy ends here ; for while the King-Emperor declined to wear the Crown before the termination of the war,

the stamping out of the plague is not so near to Lord Curzon's heart. The gravity of the situation demands that His Excellency should use all his wisdom and strength in releasing India from the clutches of the grim spectre of plague. The Editor adds that the future historian will characterise as sinful the Viceroy's devoting all his energies to the holding of the coming Delhi Darbar at a time when plague is raging in the country.

The Malkowal accident.

15. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 5th December 1902, after referring to Government's plague policy, adverts to the Malkowal mishap, and says that the accident has caused the inhabitants of the Province to dread inoculation. It is true that the mistake is not likely to be repeated, still the ignorant masses will take time to get over the shock. The Editor is of opinion that the safest way to reassure the people is to stop inoculation operations in the Punjab.

A complaint in connection with the last Accountants' Examination.

16. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 6th December 1902, complains that the papers set at the recent Accountants' Examination, especially the one on book-keeping, were so stiff that even experienced hands could not have answered them satisfactorily. It is not, therefore, surprising that not one of the 24 candidates who appeared at the examination has been successful. After taking the examiners to task for the severity shown by them in awarding marks, the Editor suggests that the Principal, Roorki College, should be moved to allow grace marks in the subject of book-keeping.

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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[Vol. XV.] [No. 51.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th December 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	13,776	6	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	4	0	0
Total	...	13,780	6	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1902, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 5th December 1902		547	5	4
1. Through Syad Sajjad Husain, Vakil, Bara-banki ...	...	61	4	0
2. Small subscriptions ...	...	11	0	0
Total	...	619	9	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	9,936	15	2

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghan affairs and Anglo-Indian newspapers.

3. A correspondent, writing to the *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th December 1902, remarks that the canards from time to time published in Anglo-Indian newspapers about Afghanistan not only give offence to Government's ally, the Amir, but also help to alarm the people. Government is kept well posted up in matters pertaining to the above country, and the said newspapers should give up prejudicing the authorities against the ruler of Kabul. The writer adds that if Government or its ally in Afghanistan is ever opposed by Russia, the Natives of India, who are the most loyal people on the face of the earth, will come forward to fight the enemy.

III.—Native States.

Hyderabad affairs.

4. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), dated the 8th December 1902, remarks that of late certain revolutionary changes have been introduced in Hyderabad, and that this is calculated to lead to serious complications. The Editor also deprecates the strained relations between the late Prime Minister and the Nizam, as also between His Highness' Shia and Sunni subjects. He also accuses the present Minister of vascillation and alleges that it was owing to no able man being available that Maharaja Kishen Pershad was appointed to succeed Sir Viqar-ul-Umra.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

The Delhi Darbar and kine-killing.

5. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), dated the 13th December 1902, publishes a communication from an Arya correspondent, who ridicules Pandit Govind Sahai's efforts in the *Akhbar-i-'Am* towards the prohibition of kine slaughter, remarking that the Pandit's own brother, Gopi Nath, is known to have eaten beef with prostitutes, while the *Akhbar-i-'Am* publishes Commissariat notices inviting tenders for the supply of beef. The writer then calls upon the Editor to take up the question and approach the King-Emperor, through the Viceroy, with a request to forbid the killing of cows in India in commemoration of the Coronation.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

6. The *Hakam* (Kadian), of the 10th December 1902, reports that on the 29th November, in speaking about the Malkowal mishap, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad stated that the number of his followers had risen from under 300 to about 200,000 men.

The same.

7. The same paper, in an Extraordinary issue, dated the 10th December 1902, announces that Maulvi Sana-Ullah and his colleagues have failed to compose an Arabic poem, and write a refutation of the *Ajaz-i-Ahmdi* within the specified time, *viz.* up to the 10th December. They cannot, therefore, claim the prize of Rs. 10,000 offered for the purpose, and may also be said to have failed to

refute Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's claims. The Editor then goes on to say that the Mirza's prophecy regarding the death of Maulvi Nazir Husain of Delhi and Maulvi Rasal Baba of Amritsar has been fulfilled. The death from plague of the latter, who was a bitter enemy of the Ahmdis, has struck his partisans with awe. On the preceding Friday the Mirza received a revelation to the effect that Rasal Baba would die within a week; and this came to pass. The fate of the deceased should serve as a warning to the opponents of the Kadian Mission.

The same.

8. A correspondent, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th December 1902, says that the Mirza's challenge to the Maulvis to write a book of the bulk and merits of the *Ajaz-i-Ahmdi* within a specified time is calculated to provoke the Muhammadans into disturbing the public peace. The Mirza gives his co-religionists extreme offence by claiming equality with the Prophet, arrogating to himself a position higher than that of Umar, &c., and speaking disrespectfully of Husain. After complaining that "the promised Messiah of Kadian" heaps the grossest abuse on Christ's head and distorts the meaning of the Quran, the correspondent remarks that challenges like the one referred to above are intended to decoy the ignorant into the Ahmdi cult. He also requests the Maulvis to leave a man like the Mirza alone and pay no heed to what he says or writes.

The same.

9. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), dated the 12th December 1901, says that in the *Hakam* of the 31st October last Mirza Ghulam Ahmad asserts that the plague has broken out in the Punjab owing to the people having preferred diverse accusations against him. He also falls foul of his co-religionists and wreaks his anger on their devoted heads. To tell the truth, however, the latter are in no way to blame, and it is the Quran which ought to be the mark of the Mirza's anger. Indeed, had he the power he would sweep that book off the face of the earth. It may be added that "the prophet of Kadian" also boasts that it is in his interest that God has induced Government to prohibit the use of force in connection with inoculation! Presumably his followers alone can believe in such tall talk; and he should please himself by indulging in it only in their presence. The Editor then goes on to say that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad alleges that on a certain night he saw his dead father in a dream and that the deceased had a stick in his hand and seemed about to strike the dreamer. The interpretation of the dream is that the Mirza's irreligiousness and atheism have reached such a point as to cause tortures even to his dead father's soul. The Mirza also states that in olden times God gave him the name of Mary, but that now He has transformed him into the promised Messiah. In others words, he was a woman once, but subsequently came to be a man. It now remains for him to become a eunuch; and this is likely to happen if he continues to display the wildness of youth in his old age. It may be mentioned here that the Editor of the *Hakam* applies the epithet Umm-ul-Mominin (mother of Muhammadans) to the wife of "the prophet of Kadian". Muhammad gave his wives this epithet in order to prevent others marrying them after his death; and his followers throughout the world still call them by the name of "mother." Upon

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad however, Musalmans look not as a messenger of God but as an infidel and apostate; and it, therefore, remains to be seen whether any of them marries the aforesaid Umm-ul-Mominin (his wife) after his death.

The same.

10. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1902, ironically remarks that apparently it is very surprising that while his rival, Maulvi Muhammad Husain of Batala, has been invited to the Delhi Darbar, Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who claims to have 200,000 followers, should have been denied the honour.

Hinduism.

11. The *Bharat Partap* (Jhajjar), for October (received in December) 1902, remarks that neither is India perfectly happy now, nor does she enjoy the freedom of olden times. The troubles in which she is involved at present do not bode good to her children, and only those who love her can relieve her sufferings. After remarking that troubles arise only where there is a dearth of national sympathy, the Editor observes that it has become extremely difficult to preserve national ideals in these days, and that this makes the achievement of any good improbable. He adds that the Hindus did not lose heart during the Muhammadan period when gross oppression was practised on them. It is, therefore, strange that now that they live under a better Government they should present a contrast in this respect. A little reflection will show that they themselves are to blame for this. They were very firm in their faith during the Musalman rule, but now they have taken to aping others. They seem bent on imitating their present rulers, but stop short after imitating the latter's vices alone. This has lessened their love for Hinduism, and has had the effect of introducing a foreign element in that religion. It is sad to see the descendants of the *Rishis*, who spurned worldly pleasures and devoted their lives to the worship of God, become enamoured of the religion and manners of a materialistic people. Can those, to whom the enjoyment of life consists only in indulging in the pleasures of this world and who do not even know what should be the highest object of a man's life, teach religion to others? The Editor adds that so long as the Hindus observed the manners and customs of their forefathers no one was able to work them any injury. He is also of opinion that the Sanatan religion alone can confer true happiness on men and teach them to tread in the right path.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The appointment of the Raja of Nahan as an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council.

12. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th December 1902, says:—"His Highness the Raja of Nahan (Sirmur) has been appointed an Additional Member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council. Is it a practical example of the Indian Feudatories being regarded as his 'co-adjutors and colleagues' by the Viceroy, as His Excellency is never tired of proclaiming? The Raja of Nahan, we hear, has inherited the business habits and common sense of his late lamented father. He is an educated and well-informed Chief, as education and information goes among the Chiefs. He supervises the management of the mines and workshops in the State, and conducts the

administration of his little principality in a fairly satisfactory manner. Beyond this we do not know what special qualification he has for the work he will have to do in his new capacity of law maker. If our rulers are pleased to allow our countrymen a voice in the making of laws for them, they (our rulers) ought obviously to have such men in the Council (Local or Supreme) as know the people, their needs, circumstances, sentiments, prejudices, wishes, aspirations, &c. The selection of a Ruling Prince to represent the teeming millions of British India obviously defeats the very end the appointment of Indians to Legislative Councils has in view. Chiefs have serious duties of their own enough to be called on to discharge ornamental functions. The Raja of Nahan lives too near Simla to be open to the charge of being an 'absentee ruler'—a type Lord Curzon so strongly condemns—when he attends the sittings of Council. But this can be said as regards the summer session only. In winter His Highness will either have to sojourn in Calcutta or make flying trips to and fro. Was there no 'common' Indian of sufficient education, status and experience available that a Feudatory Chief is going to be put to so much trouble and expense? The ways of Providence are less mysterious than the ways of our Sirkar."

VII.—General Administration.

(d)—Education.

A suggestion for the establishment of a Technical College in India.

13. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th December 1902, remarks that the education imparted in Indian Schools and Colleges cannot materially benefit the country as a whole. The chief native industry, *viz.* agriculture, is also insufficient to bring prosperity to the people. Nay, it is feared that the time is not far distant when the *zamindars* will be in such straitened circumstances as to be hardly able to meet Government demands. The only way, therefore, to make India prosperous is to impart high technical education to the people. So far, however, neither the authorities nor the people have done anything in this direction. The Editor would request Lord Curzon to establish a Technical College in India in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The case of the 9th Lancers.

14. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th December 1902, adverting to the punishment inflicted on the 9th Lancers, asserts that if Government were to display the same sense of justice on two or three similar occasions in future deaths of punkha coolies at the hands of European soldiers would become a thing of the past.

The same.

15. The same paper of the 24th November (received on the 18th December) 1902, writing on the same subject remarks that Government seems to have decided to afford protection to natives and that in future their European murderers will not escape scot free.

The income tax.

16. The same paper, of the 8th December 1902, remarks that one point in the Punjab Government's last report on the income tax is deserving of special notice. Both the Lieutenant-Governor and the Financial Commissioner are of opinion that an increase in the receipts from the tax denotes that the Province is advancing in prosperity and that its trade and commerce are in a more flourishing condition than formerly. An increase in the amount of the income tax, however,

[illegible] possible that [illegible] the 12 % recovered from persons who ought [illegible] Editor adds that during the [illegible] the financial condition of the Punjab has been anything but satisfactory. [illegible] very scanty. Nor has commercial enterprise [illegible] evident from the companies in important [illegible] Delhi, Mooltan, Jhang, &c., having had deficits. Again, the passing of the Land Alienation Act has nearly put a stop to money-lending, and so far the *Sahukars* have not invested their money in any other business. It is, therefore, hardly true that an increase in the receipts from the income tax argues an increase of prosperity in the Province.

The Delhi Darbar.

17. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), dated the 13th December 1902, writing about the Delhi Darbar, says that the assemblage will not only be more imposing and magnificent than that of 1877, but is also calculated to give an impetus to indigenous arts and industries. The Editor adds that the people are impatient for the Viceroy's speech on the occasion and feel confident that His Excellency will make some such concessions in their favour in honour of the Coronation as to render his name illustrious in the history of India. It is useless to suggest whether the concession should be the repeal of the income tax, or of the Arms Act, or the introduction of the permanent settlement, for Lord Curzon knows best what the country stands most in need of at the present juncture.

The same.

18. A correspondent, writing to the same paper, remarks that in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh the selection of persons to be released on the occasion of the Coronation Darbar has been entrusted to Jailors. These officials are making the selections, and as a consequence great injustice is being perpetrated. The Government concerned should look into the matter.

How to stop the publication of false reports in newspapers.

19. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st December 1902, remarks that although it is an offence to excite disaffection towards Government, or create enmity between the various classes of the people, nothing has yet been done to prevent the publication of false and unfounded reports in newspapers. The Press could be of still greater use to the Government if it abstained from publishing unauthenticated communications affecting the administration. Before inserting such letters in his paper an Editor should make a reference to the Chief Secretary of the Government concerned and solicit correct information on the points involved. On receipt of such communications the officer named should make the necessary enquiries and communicate the result to the Press. The Editor feels confident that the procedure would have the effect of putting a stop to the publication of false reports. He regrets that generally speaking native newspapers are edited by men of low position in society to whom their honour is of no consequence. The correspondents and reporters of these papers are also men of the same stamp, and it is very dangerous to publish news supplied by them. It is to be wished that the Press were in the hands of gentlemen, who would realize their responsibilities and abstain from publishing false, disloyal or seditious writings.

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SELECTIONS

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,100 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 "
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
5	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	2,500 copies.
6	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 "
	WEEKLY.			
7	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	400 copies.
8	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 "
9	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	500 "
10	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 "
11	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,400 "
12	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,500 "
13	Dehati Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Ghani ...	...
14	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	500 "
15	Gham Khar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Data Kishen ...	450 "
16	Gulsar-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	900 "

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	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
17	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	3,280 copies.
18	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Prag Narain ...	150 "
19	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 "
20	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	300 "
21	Koh-i-Nur ...	Lahore ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	100 "
22	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	800 "
23	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 "
24	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,000 "
25	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 "
26	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Sardar Bishen Singh ...	500 "
27	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	650 "
28	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 "
29	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Pohlo Mal ...	3,500 "
30	Rafiq-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	400 "
31	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	800 "
32	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddus ...	356 "
33	Sat Dharm Parcharik ...	Jullundur City ...	Munshi Ram ...	1,015 "
34	Shamim-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Shiv Narayan ...	175 "
35	Sialkot Paper ...	Siálkot ...	Todar Mal ...	650 "
36	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	250 "
37	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 "

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded*.			
38	Suraj ...	Ambala ...	Suraj Bai ...	310 copies.
39	Tahsib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mumtaz Ali ...	240 "
40	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	350 "
41	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,500 "
42	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,419 "
43	Wafadar ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 "
44	Watan ...	Do. ...	Karm Bakhsh ...	2,000 "
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
45	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Mirza Khan	50 copies.
46	Shokh ...	Amritsar ...	Karam Ilahi ...	525 "
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
47	Mulla Jafar Zatalli ...	Lahore ...	Mulla Muhammad Bakhsh	...
48	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Do. ...	Pandit Gopi Nath ...	700 copies.
49	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 "
50	Mehial Gazette ...	Jhelum ...	Sham Das Chabbar ...	...
	MONTHLY.			
51	Arya Musafir Magazine ...	Jullundur ...	Munshi Ram ...	700 copies.
52	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	500 "
53	Taraqqi ...	Lahore ...	Punjab Religious Book Society.	500 "
54	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Do. ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	...
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
55	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 1.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 10th January 1902.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

India between two fires.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th December 1902, remarks that while on the north-west India is threatened by Russia, the latter's friend and ally, France, is slowly but steadily approaching this country from the east. In other words, two powerful rivals of England are playing a deep game on the two vulnerable sides of "the brightest jewel in the British Crown." There can, however, be no doubt that Lord Curzon is doing his utmost to checkmate them, and that the question of the defence of India heads the list of the twelve questions which he once declared he had come out to this country to solve. Indeed, signs are not wanting to show that the surmise is correct. Only recently Burma has been made a permanent Military Command, while Government has been busy strengthening the north-west frontier and winning the hearts of the tribesmen.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th December 1902, reports that Mulla Abdul Qayum, President, Hedjaz Railway Committee, Hyderabad, left for Delhi on the 15th idem with the object of giving publicity to the Hedjaz Railway Scheme and securing contributions from the general public and the Native Chiefs assembled there. He is of opinion that part of the proposed Railway between Jadda and Arafat, a distance of about 60 miles and estimated to cost about 30 lakhs, should be constructed solely from the money collected from the Musalmans of India. The Editor then reproduces the appeal the Mulla intends issuing to Muhammadan Chiefs at Delhi on the subject.

The same.

3. The same paper of the 22nd and 29th December 1902 acknowledges the folllowing subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	13,780	6	11
Small subscriptions	113	1	0
Total	13,893	7	11

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghanistan affairs.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th December 1902, remarks that the Russian Foreign Office has given out that Russia had come to an understanding with Afghanistan in regard to the settlement of frontier questions previous to the outbreak of the Boer War. It is, however, improbable that this could have been brought about without the knowledge of the Government of India or that during the last year of his reign the late Amir Abdur Rahman should have forgotten his solemn promises to Government to have no direct relations with any other Power. It is to be feared that the above move on the part of Russia is designed to prejudice the Government of India against Afghanistan and bring affairs to the condition they were in during the time of Sher Ali Khan. At all events, it is desirable that henceforth greater attention should be paid to the defence of this country.

The same.

5. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th December 1902, reports that about two months back military stores imported by the Amir were stopped at Peshawar. In reply to a question in the House, Lord George Hamilton stated that in May 1901 the late ruler of Kabul was allowed to import some Krupp guns and that these had not been stopped. His Lordship added that the Governments of India and Afghanistan were in communication in regard to the rest of the arms and ammunition. It surprises the Editor to know that no definite understanding should exist between the two Governments in regard to an important matter like the importation of war material. The fact is also worthy of note that no incident like the one under reference occurred during the time of Abdur Rahman. It is said that speaking about the subject at a certain Darbar the late Amir of Afghanistan remarked that if the British Government was convinced of the sincerity of his professions of friendship it should not prevent him from importing military stores; and that England's enemies being his enemies the more stores he collected the more pleased she should be. Although His Highness has passed away, the relations between his country and India continue as they were, and it is to be hoped that the delicate question under reference will be amicably settled.

III.—Native States.

Hyderabad affairs.

6. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd December 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that, notwithstanding the Nizam's express orders against the employment of outsiders in the State, His Highness' subjects are excluded from almost all departments of the public service. The correspondent also complains that Mr. Walker goes to witness the Delhi Darbar with his family, Mr. Dunlop, &c., at the expense of the State, and that from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 12,000 have been sanctioned for the supply of furniture to each English official. This, he adds, is mere waste of money, and Government should look into the matter without delay.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Golden Temple.

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th December 1902 and 1st January 1903, complains that of late the precincts of the Golden Temple have been in a very untidy condition. This, as well as the mismanagement of the Temple affairs, is ascribable to the new Manager having little or no time to attend to his duties. He has to go to Naushahra Nangli almost daily to hold his court, which prevents him from attending to the work of the Temple. Indeed, the management of the Golden Temple is such an important charge that it requires the whole time and undivided attention of the Manager. It is, therefore, necessary that Sardar Arur Singh should resign either his post of Honorary Magistrate or that of Manager of the Temple. Should this be impracticable, Government should entrust the management of the great *Gurdawara* to a Committee composed of five Sikh gentlemen,—a scheme which was actually sanctioned in 1859. It may be added that the Temple Munshi and two or three Pujaris exercise a sinister influence on the Sardar and can make him dance to any tune they like. The Editor then enquires with what object Government appoints a person to the post of Manager of the Temple,—to provide for or honour that person, or to ensure the affairs of that sacred place being looked after properly? If it does so with the first object, every Sikh has a right to demand why this is done at the risk of bringing the Temple into disrepute. If, however, the appointment is made with the latter object, why should Government take no notice of the irregularities committed by its nominee?

"Christ and Christianity."

8. The *Arya Musafir Magazine* (Jullundur), for November 1902 (received in January 1903), publishes the first instalment of an abstract of a pamphlet (in English) entitled "Christ and Christianity," compiled by a "Mr. Khare, B. A., Vakil, High Court, Allahabad" The abstract is from the pen of one Mehta Jaimani, B A., a Pleader at Mooltan. The Pamphlet endeavours to prove that the founder of the Christian Religion was a madman and a fit inmate for a lunatic asylum.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian.

9. The *Mulla Ja'far Zatalli* (Lahore), of the 15th December 1902, announces that certain of its constituents have started at Lahore a society to be called the *Anjuman-i-Hami-i-Islam*. The object of the association is to collect money to be spent on the publication of notices and pamphlets in refutation of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's false claims. The notices, &c., will be distributed throughout the country and no charge will be made for them. The leading Muhammadan residents of every city and town should lend the Anjuman a helping hand, all remittances being made payable to Mulla Muhammad Bakhsh, the Secretary and Proprietor of the *Mulla Ja'far Zatalli*.

The same.

10. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd December 1902, reproduces a notice issued by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad in which he advises his followers to abstain from assembling at Qadian during the Christmas vacation lest the plague should break out in that place also. Before that, however,

the Mirza had been assuring the public that Qadian would remain immune from the epidemic, and people were invited to seek shelter there. It is to be wished that he had some perseverance, regard for his work and belief in the claims he puts forward.

The same.

11. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th December 1902, publishes a communication from one Syad Khadim Ali, B.A., of Wazirabad, who endeavours to refute the proofs put forward by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian in support of his claims to prophethood. He also challenges the Mirza to compete with certain Maulvis by writing an essay or poem in the Arabic language.

The same.

12. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 24th December 1902, says that recently in the course of a conversation the Mirza remarked that the waging of *Jehad* was forbidden in Islam, and that the present was the time for conquering the hearts of men not with the aid of the sword but by the pure teachings of Islam. After contending that the Muhammadan religion was not propagated by force, "the Prophet of Qadian" quoted extracts from the Quran to show that all the wars waged by the Prophet of Islam were purely of a defensive character.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

A suggestion for the appointment of a commission to put down the malpractices of Civil Courts.

13. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th December 1902, remarks that the several commissions appointed by Lord Curzon are certain to lead to good results, and requests His Excellency to earn the gratitude of the people by appointing another commission to put down the malpractices of Civil Courts.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police service and the *zamindars.*

14. A correspondent of the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th December 1902, remarks that the Police Department may have acquired a worse name than the other branches of the public service, but that from a moral point of view it is not more culpable. After remarking that the duties of the Police are of a very responsible character, the writer observes that native graduates cannot make successful Police Officers. He adds that the *zamindars* are specially fitted for Police service, being unrivalled detectives and trackers of criminals. He then suggests that half the posts of Naib Tahsildar, Tahsíldár and Extra Assistant Commissioner should be reserved for members of the Police Force, remarking that only Police Officers can make competent Magistrates. He is also of opinion that if Deputy Inspectors of Police were invested with the powers of a Munsif they could dispose of many a case on the spot and help in reducing the cost of litigation in India. In conclusion, he calls upon the Police Commission to give his suggestions their serious consideration.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs.

15. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th December 1902, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 9 of Selections No. 50 of 1902) alleges that Waris Ali, a relation of the local Octroi Tahsildar, is a very dishonest official and misappropriates octroi money. The Tahsildar should institute thorough inquiries into the man's conduct, failing which the Editor will be obliged to expose everything to the Deputy Commissioner.

Complaint against an Octroi official of Amritsar.

(d)—Education.

16. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th (received on the 19th) December 1902, publishes a communication in which the writer praises the Director of Public Instruction, Punjab, for having reinstated certain teachers of the Municipal Board School, Sialkot (*vide* paragraph 10 of Selections No. 49 of 1902), and enquires what compensation is to be paid them for the hardship they were subjected to during the time they were out of service. He then reiterates his suggestion regarding the transfer of Bhai Ladha Singh, Head Master of the aforesaid School, adding that the teachers who happen to incur his displeasure are never safe under him.

Complaint against the Head Master, Municipal Board School, Sialkot.

(f).—Railways and Communications.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 21st December 1902, remarks that if there were separate compartments for Native and European passengers in first and second class railway carriages an end would be put to the unseemly brawls which at present frequently occur between passengers travelling in these carriages.

First and second class accommodation for European and Native passengers.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th December 1902, remarks that the well-wishers of India would have all the civil appointments at present held by Englishmen conferred upon competent natives, as the latter's services can be secured at lower salaries. The Editor then publishes the substance of a paper on the above subject read before the East Indian Association by Mr. Pennington, a retired Indian Civilian, and says that in the course of the discussion which followed the reading of this paper it was urged that native officials being suspected of partiality even by their own fellow-countrymen it was undesirable to appoint them to posts of trust and responsibility. There is, however, no truth in the contention; at all events there is no reason why clerical appointments should be given to Europeans and Eurasians in preference to competent natives.

Europeans and Natives in the public service.

19. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd December 1902, writing about the grant of compensation to the heirs of the victims of the Malkowal accident, remarks that the incident has made it clear that the people's loyalty touches a responsive chord in the hearts of the rulers. The deaths at

The Malkowal accident.

Malkowal were undoubtedly deplorable, but no right-thinking person will deny that it was beyond human power to prevent them. No one, therefore, would have blamed Government even if it had refused any compensation, which it would assuredly have done if the people had made a disturbance over the matter.

The plague.

20. The *Ahluwaila Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th December 1902 and 1st January 1903, writing about the prevalence of plague in Amritsar, complains that the sanitation of the Kambowan Kúcha (Jhallewalian Kutra), where one or two cases occur daily, is in a disgraceful condition. The drains in that part of the city are never flushed, and heaps of rubbish and filth are everywhere to be seen. Lala Gopi Nath, whose duty it is to look after the cleanliness of the Kúcha, is wholly indifferent to the matter and has never been seen at his post. After calling upon the authorities concerned to lose no time in looking into the matter, the Editor enquires whether the money set apart by the Municipal Committee for the suppression of the plague was meant for the benefit of its members or for that of the whole city.

The same.

21. The same paper of the 24th December 1902 complains that Botála, a big village in the Amritsar District, being surrounded on all sides by heaps of rubbish, a speedy outbreak of the plague is apprehended there. Some time back the local Missionary Doctor submitted a report on the subject, and the Tahsildar of the *il:qa* was directed to have the obnoxious heaps removed. So far, however, nothing has come of it, for which it is difficult to assign a good reason. The Editor would request the Tahsildar to write to the Zaildar to do the needful at a very early date.

Punjab Government, Press, Lahore—23-1-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 2.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,
Received up to 17th January 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 9th January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 26th December 1902 ...		657	9	4
Small subscriptions		17	4	0
Total ...		674	13	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...		9,317	5	10
Grand Total ...		9,992	3	2

THE same paper announces that on the occasion of the last 'Id the preachers at the Jama Mosque and the 'Idgah, Delhi, collected about Rs. 2,000 from the local Muhammadans in aid of the above Railway.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The present Government of India.

2. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, remarks that it was the existence of disunion among the Hindus which put an end to their rule and transferred the sovereignty of India into the hands of Muhammadans. The downfall of the Government of the latter is also ascribable to the want of union in their ranks. The Editor then praises British rule, enumerates the advantages conferred by it on the people, and prays for its permanence in this country.

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

The late Hadda Mulla.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th January 1903, states that, writing about the death of the Hadda Mulla, the *Pioneer* speaks of the deceased as "this restless spirit." Even if it were granted that the epithet is not a very

objectionable one, still it cannot be denied that the said paper's remarks are opposed to the spirit of the saying "the dead are sacred," besides being calculated to injure the feelings of Muhammadans. But why should one be surprised at such conduct in those who wreaked their vengeance on the long-buried body of a Mulla (the reference is to the desecration of the tomb of the Mahdi of the Soudan).

IV.—KINE-KILLING.

Kine-killing and Muhammadans.

4. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 3rd January 1903, says that in the course of its review of the "Tohfai-Akmal" compiled by a Qázi Zahur-ud-din Akmal, the *Panja-i-Fulád* remarks that the compiler discusses the question of kine-slaughter in a very able manner, and entreats his co-religionists to abstain from the slaughter of cows. This view of the question is shared in by all right-minded Muhammadans, and the Prophet's followers should unite with the Hindus in getting a stop put to the killing of kine, thereby removing the disunion existing between the two communities.

V.—NATIVE SOCIETIES AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

Golden Temple affairs.

5. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th January 1903, complains that nothing has so far been done to improve the management of the Golden Temple. As a matter of fact affairs are drifting from bad to worse, while Munshi Sant Ram, a *protégé* of the Manager, is doing his best to injure the feelings of the public. On the Coronation day the man had a wooden structure, made in connection with the illumination, conveyed into the Temple precincts by sweepers. This act of sacrilege on the part of the Munshi has greatly offended the Sikhs, and the Deputy Commissioner would do well to call for an explanation from the Manager.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian.

6. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 10th January 1903, publishes a notice issued by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who alleges that recently two revelations were made to him by God. He also asserts that the Almighty will shortly manifest a heavenly sign in support of his claims. The manifestation will put his opponents to shame and make him honoured throughout the world.

The same.

7. A correspondent of the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, writing about the case instituted against Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (at Jhelum), says that the Mirza's writings give offence to not a few persons. Should the case against him prove to be true, he should be punished in an exemplary manner, for men of his stamp constitute a danger to both Government and the people.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police and the Delhi Darbar.

8. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 9th January 1903, remarks that the salaries of the Police officials told off for duty in connection with the Darbar were insufficient for their maintenance, living at Dehli having been very

expensive during their stay there. They had consequently to run into debt. The Editor then refers to the onerous and responsible nature of the work performed by the Police, and suggests that the expenses incurred by them should be defrayed by Government. They should besides be granted one month's pay each as a reward for the excellent services rendered by them at Dehli. He then praises Mr. C. Brown, Inspector-General of Police, for his work on the occasion.

The Indian Police.

9. The same paper, of the 26th December 1902, says that while indiscriminate abuse is heaped on the devoted heads of the Police, no one pauses to think that black sheep are to be found in every fold. It cannot be denied that some of the so-called guardians of the public peace in this country are given to oppression and bribery ; nevertheless it is a fact that while they do so in villages and other out-of-the-way places, the Court *amla* and chaprasis extort bribes from litigants under the very nose of the Magistrate. The Police and the subordinate officials in the Courts alone are not dishonest, but the evil pervades very nearly all departments of the public service. After naming some of these Departments, the Editor promises to write at length on the subject at some future time.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

A complaint against the Amritsar Municipality.

10. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 27th December 1902, complains that the local Municipal Committee looks upon Act XIII of 1884 as so much waste paper. There are about 80 sections in the Act under which bye-laws are ordered to be framed; but the members and servants of the Committee pay no heed to them. The evil originated with the late Mr. Nichol, who wished to work in the dark and have everything his own way. It is, however, to be regretted that the City Fathers of Amritsar should be loth to put an end to this state of affairs even now. These gentlemen do not hesitate to resort to falsehood, deception and bribery in order to secure their election ; but when they have to work they display the languor of an impotent man. The Editor adds that, in utter violation of the rules on the subject, the Municipality does not publish the drafts of such bye-laws as are framed by it ; and that this being so, the residents of Amritsar could, with perfect immunity, decline payment of Municipal taxes and duties, or erect buildings without obtaining the Municipality's permission.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Coronation Darbar.

11. *The Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, remarks that the Coronation Darbar has cost the country lakhs, nay, crores of rupees. But as regards the grant of some concessions to the people, which forms an essential feature of such functions in the East, Lord Curzon could only announce that His Majesty's native subjects would undoubtedly be shown some favours, but that he could not foretell the nature of these favours. To the wise, they say, a word is enough ; and did the people of India possess the necessary intelligence, they would conclude at once that no new concessions are to be granted to them. After remarking that the people have been

grievously disappointed in the expectations they had formed of the Delhi Darbar, the Editor expresses the hope that independent native journalists will not mince matters in spite of the Viceroy's exhortation to them to treat the Darbar with the solemnity associated with it in his own mind. He adds that the Indian Princes, who borrowed lakhs of rupees in order to attend the Darbar, will not be able to pay their debts for years to come.

The same.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 7th January 1903, remarks that the number of natives who received titles on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar is much smaller than that of Europeans who have been similarly honoured. Although it was expected that the honours' list would be a long one, it is disappointing to find that on an average barely five districts in each Province have come in for distinction. It is also noteworthy that unlike the Assemblage of 1877 no one has been made an Honorary Assistant Commissioner on the occasion of the recent Darbar. The Editor then expresses the hope that Government will rectify the mistake on the King-Emperor's coming birthday or the following New Year's day. He is also of opinion that Lord Curzon should distribute Coronation Darbar medals to all the invited guests.

The plague at Amritsar.

13. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 27th December 1902, remarks that although for some time past the plague has been raging in Amritsar and claiming a large number of victims daily, up till recently the fact was not so much as mentioned in the birth and death returns of the city. On the Deputy Commissioner coming to know of this, that officer remonstrated with the Civil Surgeon, the Municipal Commissioners, &c., with the result that now and then a few deaths from plague are now shown in the returns. The disease was at its worst from August to November last and swept away many a family; but the Civil Surgeon never thought it worth his while to move in the matter. Now, however, that it has abated and death returns are no longer wholly fictitious, he has written to the Municipality to say that the epidemic is gaining in virulence, and asks that body to combat the evil. It would appear that at some future time the officer in question intends impressing it on the mind of Government that it was through his efforts that the number of deaths from plague in Amritsar was so small. Were not, however, the local City Fathers incompetent and ignorant of their duties, it would be impossible to invent such fictions. The Editor is of opinion that the people should request Government to replace these gentry by better and abler men, who would not sit silent while the plague is working havoc in the city. He would also urge the Lieutenant-Governor to call for an explanation as to why nothing has been done to stamp out the epidemic, although it has been raging for the last 12 months and has killed off thousands of human beings. He then goes on to say that the doings of "Doctors" having led to the people losing faith in the said medical men, Government was pleased to issue orders permitting the placing of plague patients under the treatment of native physicians. At Amritsar, however, no heed is paid to these orders.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—33 1 03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS
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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	13,894	7	11
Small subscriptions	5	0	0
Total ...	13,899	7	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 9th January 1903...	674	13	4
Small subscriptions	24	6	0
Total ...	699	3	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,016	9	2

(*b*)—*Home.*

British rule.

3. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 28th November 1902 (received on the 22nd January 1903), remarks that the prayer of the followers of the Vedic religion contains an invocation to God to keep the rule of the world in the hands of the Aryas. This implies that the world is already under the rule of the Aryas. But the teachings of the Vedas are not rightly understood. These scriptures do not apply the epithet of Arya to only those who are born at Benares, Mathra, &c.: they merely divide mankind into Aryas and Dasyus, good men and bad men. The question now arises whether the Indians of to-day are worthy of being called Aryas? The

Editor is of opinion that neither the Sanatanists nor the Arya Samajists can lay claim to the title. On the other hand, Englishmen, who are better endowed with the cardinal virtues than the people of India, can; and the sovereignty of the world being in their hands, who can find fault with the Vedic doctrine that Aryas alone are fit to rule the world? The Editor says that he has been led to make the above remarks from the perusal of a report regarding a journey through the air of a baloonist, named Mr. Stanley Spencer, and his wife and little daughter. He would like to know if there is a single woman or girl in the family of any of the Congress leaders who would accompany her husband or father in a baloon. But let alone the Indian National Congress; another class of native politicians consider secret societies far more useful to India, are given to working in the dark, would establish a republic in the country and appoint their friends to all administrative posts. Can these worthies say whether their better halves are courageous and brave enough to co-operate with them in the attainment of the object they have in view? But why should one speak of women where men are greater cowards than the members of the weaker sex? The Editor would advise native politicians to put their own houses in order instead of criticising the powers that be, for it is extremely foolish in those who cannot achieve the former task to interfere in the government of a country.

III.— Native States.

The present military strength of Native States.

4. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 17th January 1903, remarks that the cannon kept in Native States are of an antiquated pattern and, therefore, of little or no use. The irregular forces maintained in the States are also armed with guns of a like make, and cannot be expected to give a good account of themselves in the hour of need. Indian Princes are not consequently in a position to render Government any appreciable help in a war with Russia or any other Power. It is therefore desirable that they should be allowed to supply themselves with modern weapons of war. They should also make their forces more efficient, the number of soldiers now maintained being reduced if necessary. Both the officers and men should be given the same salaries as are paid to the ir comrades in British India.

V —Native Society and Religiuos Matters.

Golden Temple affairs.

5. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th January 1903, says that it was Munshi Sant Ram who employed sweepers to convey a wooden structure into the precincts of the Golden Temple (*vide* paragraph 5 of Selections No. 2). After remarking that but for the presence of a few gentlemen this desecration of the Temple would have led to a disturbance, the Editor calls upon the Manager to dismiss the Munshi.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Kadian.

6. The *Mulla Ja'far Zatalli* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, states that on the 5th November 1899 Mirza Ghulam Ahmad issued a notice to the effect that God would manifest a sign in his behalf within three years.

But the period has expired and no such manifestation has taken place. The Mirza must therefore be branded as an "infidel" and a "liar." The Editor then refers to some of the religious discussions in which the Mirza has been ignominiously defeated, promising to write on the subject at great length in the second part of his *Sidaqat-i-Ahmdia*.

The same.

7. The same paper publishes a communication from one Mirza Imam-ud-din (brother of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad), who alleges that, notwithstanding the latter's prophecies to the contrary, the plague has broken out at Kadian not only amongst his disciples but amongst the inmates of his house. After mentioning the names of those of "the Prophet of Kadian's" followers who have died of plague, the correspondent publishes a few verses in Punjabi composed by one Hafiz Muhammad Din, in which it is alleged that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad once became enamoured of the wife of one of his disciples, pressed her to his heart, and bit her on the cheek like a dog. Then follow some verses in Urdu, and in these the Mirza is called "accursed," "shameless," "a second devil," and the like.

The same.

8. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 23rd January 1903, after referring to the cases instituted by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and others against Maulvi Karm-ud-din and the Editor of the *Siraj-ul-Akhbar*, as also to those brought by the latter against the Mirza, regrets that the parties should have moved the law against each other. This conduct on their part clashes with their pretensions to superiority and holds them up to public opprobrium. It is to be wished that they would see the error of their ways and drop this method of warfare. There is, however, no likelihood of the Mirza following this advice; for he has made the fulfilment of certain of his prophecies dependent on the result of these cases.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police in the Frontier Province.

9. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1903, publishes a communication from one Maulvi Abdulla, senior teacher, Khanpur School, Hazara District, who says that by the separation of the Frontier districts from the Punjab the Police employed in these districts have suffered great loss. Their field of promotion has been considerably restricted, and Deputy Inspectors, who were formerly given an increase of pay every fourth or fifth year, will have now to wait for it for about eight years. The same is the case with Sergeants, whose promotion naturally depends upon that of Deputy Inspectors. After remarking that the lives of the Police serving in the Frontier Province are in constant danger, the writer calls upon the Chief Commissioner and the Inspector-General of Police to remedy the evil and popularise Police service on the Frontier by the grant of liberal allowances.

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the zamindars.

10 The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st January 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that the present deplorable condition of the agricultural classes is due to their having severed their connection with money-lenders. The majority of them cannot derive much benefit from *taqavi* advances, as Government must be aware that the borrower receives only a part of these loans. Neither would Agricultural Banks be of much use, as before obtaining a loan from such a Bank a zamindar would have to grease the palms of the village Patwari, Lambardars, &c. It is therefore more to his interest to pay 2 per cent. to a Sahukar than Re. 0 8-0 to Government or an Agricultural Bank. The writer would advise the Government to institute secret inquiries in order to ascertain the truth or otherwise of the above allegations.

(f)—*Railways and Communications.*

The Delhi Darbar and the Indian Railways.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 9th January 1903, finds fault with the Railway arrangements in connection with the Darbar, and remarks that every visitor to Delhi on the occasion is full of complaints on the subject. The matter suggests a question which should attract the instant attention of the powers that be. If the Railways in India cannot meet the demands of a peaceful assemblage like the Delhi Darbar in spite of many months' previous notice, it is idle to expect that they will be equal to transporting hundreds of thousands of soldiers and the necessary ammunition, &c., at short notice to the Frontier in cases of emergency. It is to be hoped that the question will engage the serious attention of His Excellency the Viceroy.

(h)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Delhi Darbar.

12. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th January 1903, writing about the Delhi Darbar, remarks that absolutely nothing has been done to immortalise the occasion so far as the natives of India are concerned. The people expected Lord Curzon to announce the grant of many concessions and privileges to them, and they were in hopes that Government would signalise the Darbar by deciding to follow a more generous policy towards them in future. All that it has done, however, is to remit three years' interest on the loans made to certain Native States from the public treasury to combat the last famine. But this hardly comes up even to the remission by the Rana of Kotah of arrears of land revenue to the amount of Rs. 50,00,000 in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation.

The same.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, publishes similar remarks.

14. The *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 17th January 1903, remarks that the Darbar seems to have been held to impress on the people the fact that in point of power and grandeur their present Government surpasses its Moghul predecessors. But was not every native of India fully aware of this even before the Darbar? Where, then, was the use of organising such an empty show, especially at a time when famine and plague are working havoc in the land? If the recent function at Delhi was performed in accordance with an old oriental practice, the example should be followed to the very letter and various gifts conferred on the people in honour of the occasion. The Darbar is, however, to be marked only by the bestowal of titular distinctions, the political condition of His Majesty's native subjects being left as it is. It is for such reasons that not a few Indian as well as European statesmen opposed the assemblage and called it the "Curzonation Darbar."

The same.

15. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th January 1903, remarks that the Coronation Darbar was a spectacle unique in the history of the world, and it will be long before the impression left by it is effaced from the memory. Again, right royal hospitality was extended to the officials, *Raises* and others invited to the Darbar, while not a few of these gentlemen received titles on the occasion. The masses, however, had no part in the show, and none of the good things have fallen to their share. Neither have they been relieved of any taxation, nor has any new privilege been conferred on them. They have, on the contrary, been saddled with the cost of the Darbar, *i. e.* they have had to pay in order to contribute to the amusement of others. Of course, the Viceroy spoke a few words of sympathy to them, but the utterance was of a very vague nature. His Excellency announced that if the coming year proved a prosperous one he would see what relief could be afforded to the masses. But it needs no prophet to foretell what sort of a year the next one promises to be. The god of rain is in an angry mood, and the prevailing drought has not permitted the sowing of crops even on the usual scale. It would therefore have been far better if Lord Curzon had not ~~delayed the~~ bestowal of the gift. The Editor then goes on to say that the people generally have not even had the good fortune to hear the King-Emperor's message, and remarks that the same ought to have been read everywhere with the Royal Proclamation. He adds that the residents of the Punjab were unable to understand the contents of the Proclamation, as the Urdu translation was beyond the comprehension of persons of average literary attainments. The document ought to have been translated into Punjabi; and, at least, easy Urdu words ought to have been used.

The same.

16. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 15th January 1903, after remarking that the Punjab Government had a great hand in the general management of the Darbar, congratulates Sir Charles Rivaz and Mr. Diack on the creditable manner in which the task has been performed. The invited guests were provided with every comfort, while the visitors to the Darbar did

not experience the least difficulty in obtaining tickets. This was due to the polite treatment of these gentlemen by Khwaja Tassadduq Husain, the popular Mir Munshi to the Local Government. Mr. R. E. Younghusband also acquitted himself well in looking after the comforts of the Punjab Chiefs placed in his charge, and none of the latter have any complaints to make against that officer. Again, Mr. C. Brown deserves great credit for his Police arrangements, for which the public has nothing but praise. The Police Officers placed on special duty in connection with the Darbar and the authorities of the Delhi Division are also deserving of praise for the work done by them.

The Darbar medals and the representatives of the Native Press.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 15th January 1903, remarks that Lord Curzon's proposal to distribute Darbar medals to the invited guests will be greatly appreciated by the native gentry and Chiefs. The Editor adds that the representatives of the Native Press are also entitled to receive the medals, and expresses the hope that their claims will not be overlooked. Indeed, when three Editors of Anglo-Indian newspapers have been decorated with the C. I. E. in honour of the Coronation, the distinction prayed for for the 36 representatives of the Native Press invited to the Darbar does not seem extravagant.

Coronation honours and Diwan Narindra Nath, Deputy Commissioner, Gujranwala.

18. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 10th January 1903, remarks that, not only the residents of Lahore, but people throughout the Punjab, have been greatly disappointed at the omission of Diwan Narindra Nath's name from the Coronation Honours list. It was the general expectation that the Diwan would be granted some title on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar; and in honouring him Government would have been honouring the entire Rais party in the Province. The gentleman named is looked upon as the ornament of the said party; while his position in society is so high and he has rendered such valuable services to Government that his having remained undecorated up to the present argues great indifference on the part of Government to his claims. The duties appertaining to the post of Deputy Commissioner are of such a difficult character that native officers promoted to this post in the Punjab usually get themselves transferred to the Judicial line. Diwan Narindra Nath, however, has stood manfully to his guns and has displayed such tact in the performance of his duties as to gain praise not only from Hindus and Muhammadans, but from Anglo-Indians. And if for nothing else he ought to have been decorated with a title for this. At all events, the Editor has no doubt that the mistake will be rectified on the King-Emperor's birthday.

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SELECTIONS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

India between two fires.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th and 23rd January 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 1 of Selections No. 1), quotes extracts from an article published by Lord Curzon on the same subject in 1893, and observes that most probably it was His Lordship's presence in India which prevented Russia from taking advantage of Abdur Rahman's death to push further Indiawards. It will, however, be wrong to conclude from this that she has given up the idea of one day invading this country. On the contrary, she is busy strengthening her position in Asia and has redoubled her efforts in the attainment of the end in view. She has also entered into a formal alliance with France; while she has been extending her influence in China and increasing her Navy, with the object of facilitating the despatch of reinforcements to French possessions in Anam. Again, she has been intriguing in the country of the Lamas and has also an eye on Seistan. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that the Government of India is aware of all this and is doing its level best to checkmate Russia. Seistan will shortly be connected with India by a railway, while it has now become possible to transport troops to Kandhar in twenty-four hours. Besides, strong British fleets always cruise in Chinese waters and an alliance has been entered into with Japan, the forces in Burma having been increased at the same time. The time is, however, certain to come when these moves and countermoves will become impossible and the combatants will enter the arena: the struggle will decide the fate not only of India, but of every country in the world.

Ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa.

2. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1903, remarks that their white neighbours are meting out the worst possible treatment to Indian immigrants to Australia and South Africa. The Australian Commonwealth has passed a law which has for ever put a stop to the immigration of Indian labourers into that part of the world. And as the unfortunate men in question have to suffer all this indignity at the hands of their well-wishers, the English, they can only repeat the following couplet:—

I have no complaint to make against strangers,
For whatever I suffer has been brought on me by my friend.

3. One Shahab-ud-din, of Durban, writing to the *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd January 1903, remarks that Indian traders in the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony were in hopes that the annexation of this part of South Africa would put an end to the disabilities under which they laboured during the Kruger *régime*. Their hopes have, however, been dashed to the ground and their lot is as unbearable as ever. It is under contemplation that they should be required to live in "locations" outside cities, while they are forbidden to use footpaths or ride in tramcars Only recently one Ibrahim and two or three other traders at Pretoria were driven away from a footpath by the Police. Again, Habib and Ishaq, who were going to the mosque at about 8 P. M. to say their prayers, were placed under arrest, although Europeans walk about the town till midnight. Nor is this all. Indian traders find it impossible to renew their licenses, such is the oppression practised on them. In short, they are treated worse than dogs; and Government seems loath to do justice to them. After referring to the services rendered by Indian immigrants during the Boer War and alleging that the colonists adopted a hostile attitude towards England on that occasion, the writer calls upon native journalists and other public men in the country to urge upon Government the desirability of removing the aforesaid grievances.

The same.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,899	7	11
Small subscriptions		5	0	0
Total	...	13,904	7	11

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the same date, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 16th January 1903...		669	3	4
Small subscriptions		89	8	0
Total	...	788	11	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,106	1	2

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd January 1903, says that the present internal condition of Afghanistan is such that it is not improbable that a general rebellion will break out in the country one of these days. Although the fire was smouldering in Abdur Rahman's time, His Highness' foresight and sense

An apprehended rebellion in Afghanistan.

of justice prevented it from bursting into a flame. Now, however, it is not unlikely that the dreaded event may come to pass, and that the Afghan Sardars, &c., may unsheath their swords and shed rivers of blood. Bibi Halima's request to Sufi Ghulam Muhai-ud-Din, an Agent of the Anjuman-Himayat-i-Islam (Lahore), to preserve peace and union among the sons of the late ruler of Afghanistan struck keen-sighted politicians as ominous. And the report in the *Globe* that Muhammad Umar Khan, a son of the aforesaid lady, has laid claim to the throne of Kabul has confirmed the worst fears of the well-wishers of the Afghans. Habibulla Khan, however, need not fear this rival, although His Highness' mother was not of royal descent. Nor should Russian designs against his kingdom dishearten His Highness, for he may depend on the British Government standing by him in the hour of need.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Golden Temple affairs.

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th January 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that Sant Ram, Munshi of the Manager of the Golden Temple, has become so reckless that he insults *pujaris* openly. After remarking that a libel case is about to be instituted against the man, the correspondent warns the Manager not to help Sant Ram with Temple money in defending himself.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

8. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 24th January 1903, announces that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad has submitted a memorial to the Government of India praying that Friday he declared a public holiday to enable Muhammadans to say the ordained prayers on that day. All Musalman newspapers should support the suggestion and urge upon Government to grant the prayer.

VII—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

The insanitary condition of Amritsar.

9. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th January 1903, says that the *Mukhbar* of Amritsar complains of the insanitary condition of that city. Heaps of filth and rubbish are said to abound in every lane, so that it is an infliction to walk along one. Again, the drains are always full of dirty and stinking water, and many of them have never been flushed. The débris of fallen houses is another nuisance, and helps to render the surrounding air impure. Mr. Gow, the new Secretary of the local Municipality, should look into the matter without delay.

(h)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Coronation Darbar.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 13th, 15th and 17th January 1903, publishes a series of long articles on the Coronation Darbar, in the course of which, after confessing to being "overpowered with a sense of responsibility and diffidence when taking up our pen to write about the Darbar," it makes the following remarks :—

"His Excellency should not allow himself to be elated by the encomiums on his grand enterprise which have appeared in the English and Anglo-Indian Presses, any more than he should feel depressed by the condemnatory judgments which have already begun to be pronounced here and there in the Native Press. In our

humble opinion the best attitude for His Excellency to adopt would be to keep careful watch of what is being said on either side, and to find out for himself *how far the things said to have been achieved by the one side fall short of the expectations formed by the other ; and then to try, if possible, to make up the deficiencies.* * * * *
In that case alone could the Darbar prove itself to be an event of permanent influence on the future history of India ; otherwise it would remain on record as only the pageant of a day, literally a nine days' wonder, such as its hostile critics are trying to prove it to have been.

" Our impression is that the Darbar is responsible for having given rise to higher expectations that it has been able or even tried to fulfil, and that therefore the foremost feeling in every thoughtful mind is bound to be one of disappointment. But at the same time we cannot condemn it as a mere *tamasha*—a gigantic show organised for the glorification of one man and for the purpose of deluding the world in general and India in particular * * * * * For on the 1st of January, in the midst of all the hollowness of pageant and the disappointment caused by an empty Viceregal speech, every one present in the great Amphitheatre could not help feeling that the royal presence was nearer to him not merely through the King-Emperor's message, but also through the person of his gracious brother the Duke of Connaught as well as that of his trusted Viceroy, who in spite of his vaulting ambition was evidently the one person most anxious to please all His Majesty's subjects—of high as well as low degree. This in our humble opinion is the net gain derivable by the people of India from Lord Curzon's Darbar—namely, that whether intentionally or unintentionally, he has been instrumental in bringing the Royal personality nearer to the Indian people, and further that His Excellency has by his words and actions committed the Government of India to a more Oriental mode of governing the people * * * * Of course, the great interest of the Darbar had for months in anticipation centred round the expected Viceregal speech, and it will be the thing discussed long after the brilliancy and gorgeousness of the pageant will have begun to fade away from memory. For the speech was looked forward to as the grand efflorescence of the whole organization, and it was fondly hoped that in truly Oriental style the Viceroy would make announcement of boons to the people commensurate with the grandeur of the arrangements and the importance attached to the ceremony. It is here that the keenness of the disappointment must come in * * * * As a Viceregal declaration on the occasion of what has been sought to be impressed upon the people as one of the grandest events in the history of India, the speech falls very much short of the mark. As a demonstration of the majesty of British power, of the success of its organization, of the manner in which heterogeneous and conflicting units have been welded into one harmonious whole—aye, of the way in which Princes and people have been brought to one common level—the speech had no doubt its uses in setting forth the meaning of the object-lesson presented by the scene in the Amphitheatre. But surely a Darbar to which Princes and people had come from long distances and at great sacrifices, to celebrate the Coronation of their Sovereign, was not the place to remind them that they were a subject race, and that their future depended only upon the 'unchallenged supremacy' of the British Crown ? * * * * * The Viceroy should have been more anxious to impress his audience with the moral greatness than with the physical prowess of British rule ; and this could have been done only by telling the Princes and people what steps their Emperor had taken, or was going to take, in order to reward their loyalty, and how they were going to be more closely associated with the administration of which they were the main props of support * * * * But in vain we scan the speech from one end to the other to discover any statement of policy or principle, or the offer of any pledge or hope, that might have made the audience rise to the sublimity which was expected for the occasion * * * * * *

The spectacle was splendid, the arrangements were unique, and Imperial Delhi had never seen such a sight before, but in place of the Grand Moghul distributing favours with unstinted hand, there stood the representative of a hard-headed race, bound in red-tape, whose periods were measured by financial calculations and whose emotions were restrained by the consciousness lest he should exceed the bounds of official discretion. * * * * Coming to examine the concessions in detail and comparing them with the grandeur and solemnity of the occasion, an Indian would hardly be inclined to regard them as concessions at all. The remission of three years' interest on loans made by Native Princes to meet the effects of famine in their territories can scarcely be regarded as much of a relief, considering that these Princes have been put to heavy expenses, and in some cases have been driven into fresh loans, by the necessity of attending the Darbar. But in any case the Princes are not a poor fraternity, and few of them would have felt the payment of interest such a crushing burden as to be induced to welcome the remission as a relief. * * * * As to the relief afforded to 132 civil prisoners, whose debts aggregating to Rs. 8,590 are undertaken to be paid by Government, the amount is so insignificant that we cannot comprehend how so poor a gift was thought worthy to be associated with such a grand occasion as an Imperial Coronation. * * * * * The release of criminal prisoners and remission of sentences will cost nothing to the Government and will be after all but a doubtful act of grace, considering that many of the men are probably hardened sinners who had better been kept in custody * * * * * * Talking of concessions, let us see if the Darbar has done anything for the masses. So far, we are afraid, the answer must be in the negative. The Paramount Power has not moved one finger, has not given up one single demand, to relieve the suffering masses of this country of the extreme privations to which they are so often subject. * * * * His Most Gracious Majesty Edward VII and His Right Honourable Excellency Lord Curzon have both failed to read the hearts of their poor subjects and give them a tangible proof of their paternal love and kingly regard. So all their prayers for the happy inauguration and successful ending of this ceremony have remained unrewarded. The noble Duke brought a casket of K. C. V. O. for Sir Hugh Barnes and handed it over to him as the reward from his royal brother to his faithful servant. But, alas ! His Royal Highness brought nothing from his royal brother for his faithful subjects, the principal tax-payers of the realm. * * * * As things stand, the people will, after a few days, forget all the splendour and gaiety of the occasion and remember only that in a poor, famine-stricken, plague-infected and miserable country like India the Government of the time spent lakhs of rupees on a mere pageant and meaningless display. Lakhs of money have thus been indirectly put into the already overfull pockets of wealthy England to the detriment of the starving millions of this unhappy land. The ruling Chiefs, the big Taluqdars, the small landlords, all have had to contribute to this show what they should have spent upon the people from whom they derive their income and upon whose labours they live in luxury and plenty. While the Lord of Kashmir was paying thousands (we suppose about a hundred thousands) to the European Company that supplied electric light to his camp at Delhi, the poor in Srinagar were crying aloud from the pangs of starvation and hunger. While the Masters of Marwar and Bikaner were adding to the glory of the Darbar, hundreds and thousands of their poor subjects were looking to the skies, standing aghast at their grim appearance and unrelenting coldness. While the Governors and Lieutenant-Governors were praying for sunshine to save them from cold and chill, while the Viceroy wished for undisturbed weather to allow his show to be finished without a drop of water from the heavens to mar its beauty and effect, the millions of this country were weeping tears of blood over the cruel and untimely partiality of the heavens to the organisers and sight-seers of the Darbar festivities. Not that they wished the Darbar gaieties to be marred, but the very lives of these unfortunate creatures demanded a good and plentiful shower of rain from the heavens. Perhaps the fates are against them. Their

Sovereign on earth, there Liege Lord in England, has smiled only on those who were already rolling in wealth, luxury and plenty. He has given the choicest of his gifts only to them. He has knighted them. He has added to their privileges, powers and prestige for good or for evil. He has loaded them with honours. He has granted them *jagirs*, *inams*, remissions of land-revenue and lands. In short, he has done his level best for them. But to his people, to the tillers of the soil, to the hewers of wood and drawers of water, to those who work day and night in order to provide plenty for him, his officers and his favoured subjects, to those who supply soldiers for his army, he has given nothing, no concession, no privilege, no right, no reduction of their burdens, no remission in taxation, not even a word of sympathy in their troubles. * * * * The King-Emperor had, indeed, sent his subjects a message of love, but it was a message unaccompanied with a single act of grace towards those who stood most in need of it. The poor, it might be said without hesitation, had no place or part in the celebrations at Delhi, and it is the poor who form the majority in this country. It is true that the Viceroy held out hopes of relief to the overburdened masses, but the offer is conditional on so many contingencies that it might not have been made at all. * * * * It would have been well for the good name of Lord Curzon as well as of his Darbar if His Excellency had realised that what was to 'him especially gratifying to contemplate' was just the thing that the people of India had been looking forward to as the *especial* concession that an occasion like an Imperial Coronation required. The Darbar has been something like the play of Hamlet without the part of the Prince of Denmark. Financial considerations were set at naught so far as the arrangements for pomp and splendour and pageantry were concerned, but the unwelcome financial considerations came in when the people were to be given a share out of the gigantic outlay; and so the act of showing 'sympathy and regard' for the people has been left over for His Excellency the Viceroy as only a pleasant duty 'to contemplate!'"

Coronation honours and the Native Press.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 19th January 1903, says that the *Observer* writing about the decoration of three Anglo-Indian Journalists with the title of C I. E. remarks that the honour should also have been conferred upon some Native Editors. The *Victoria Paper* endorses the suggestion and adds that the leading newspapers in the country richly deserve some mark of official approbation for services rendered by them to both Government and the public. It is, therefore, to be hoped that Lord Curzon will rectify the mistake and confer titles on the Managers and Editors of some of the most prominent native papers before His Excellency leaves India.

Haji Abdulla Browne's visit to Amritsar.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd January 1903, reports that Haji Abdulla Browne, a Christian convert to Islam, who is a traveller of some note and enjoys the respect of his Muhammadan fellow-townsmen at Cairo, visited Amritsar during the week. He was introduced to the Editor by Hafiz Abdur Rahman, who became acquainted with the Haji during his travels in Egypt some time back. The stranger is not only a good English scholar, but also possesses a fair knowledge of Arabic, Persian, Urdu, and French. He intends starting a paper at Cairo with the object of drawing the English and Asiatics nearer together and removing the misunderstandings which keep the two asunder.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—7-2-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 7th February 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,904	7	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	7	2	0
Total	...	13,911	9	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the same date, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 23rd January 1903	...	788	11	4
Small subscriptions ...	...	2	0	0
Total	...	790	11	4
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
Grand Total	...	10,108	1	2

(b)—Home.

Government and the people.

3. The *Koh-i-Nur* (Lahore), of the 4th February 1903, remarks that the people of India now enjoy such peace and prosperity that prayers are daily offered in mosques and temples for the permanence of British rule in the country. The friendly relations existing between the rulers and the ruled leave no room for doubt that if any foreign enemy were to threaten Government, neither Hindus nor Muhammadans would hesitate to lay down their lives in its defence. Indeed, if the present state of affairs continues the maintenance of a British garrison will become unnecessary and the entire population of India will be converted into a huge Government army. But it is to be regretted that the conduct of certain Englishmen, notably those employed in the Railway and certain other Departments, is calculated to

create estrangement between the people and their present masters. These Englishmen look down on natives and will have nothing to do with them. "Go, you fool" is the usual reply of some of them to a native salaaming them, which cannot make the native regard them with feelings of affection or respect. Government should issue some confidential instructions directing such European officials to treat natives in a considerate manner.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

4. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 4th February 1903, writing about the Amir's reported forthcoming visit to India, remarks that there are several questions pertaining to the relations between Afghanistan and this country which cannot be settled by correspondence. A meeting between Lord Curzon and Habibulla Khan would be certain to facilitate the solution of these questions, and prove beneficial to the interests of both countries.

The Amir's reported forthcoming visit to India.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st February 1903, writing about the resignation of the Maharaja Holkar, remarks that His Highness has taken the step of his own free will. There can be no doubt that he has been suffering from mental derangement for a long time past, and that his doings were calculated to lower the prestige of Government. He had several times been warned to mend his ways, but all warnings were lost on him and he continued his objectionable course. In short, he had thoroughly exhausted the patience of Government. Fortunately for Lord Curzon he, of his own accord, decided to live in retirement, and His Excellency did not allow him to change his mind. Perhaps the eyes of the *ex*-ruler of Indore have been opened now.

The abdication of the Maharaja Holkar.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

6. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 25th January 1903, remarks that many people are ignorant of the fact that beetroot sugar is refined with the bones of cows, pigs, &c. This sugar and the preparations in which it is used are not, therefore, fit for consumption by Hindus and Muhammadans, both of whom value religion above their lives. Consequently it behoves them not to fall away from their respective faiths and mar their hereafter for the sake of a mere trifle. Besides, it is a mistake to suppose that the above sugar is cheaper than its native rival, seeing that the former is less sweet than the latter and two seers of it have to be used where only one of the Indian-made article would suffice. Nor is it so nutritious and sustaining as the sugar manufactured in this country, while its use causes dryness in the system. Again, the consumption of the powdered bones mixed in it breeds several diseases; and it is the Editor's opinion that the outbreak of the plague in India is ascribable to the introduction of beetroot sugar into the country. Above all, patriotism demands that the people should give up the use of the sugar in question, as this has led to a falling off in the manufacture of sugar in this country and thereby proved injurious to the interests of the *zamindars* and traders.

Beetroot sugar.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

Mahammadans and the Punjab Legislative Council.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 16th January (received on the 3rd February) 1903, regrets to have to say that the claims of educated Punjabis, particularly of Muhammadans, in regard to appointments on the Local Legislative Council, have not so far met with the recognition they deserve. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the Vice-Chancellor of the Punjab University is of opinion that a time will come when Punjabi graduates will try to secure seats on the said Council. May that time be not long coming, for several residents of the Province have not only distinguished themselves in different walks of life but are in the enjoyment of great riches and influence which eminently fits them for participation in the work of legislation. The selection from among the Hindus of the Hon'ble Mr. Madan Gopal to serve on the Provincial Council has proved a success in every respect. It is to be hoped that Governmet will nominate at least one educated Muhammadan to the Council, especially as the Prophet's followers do not yield to the Hindus in loyalty and devotion to Government.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government and the zamindars.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th January 1903, writing about the Bundelkhand Alienation of Land Bill, remarks that were the *zamindars* to make their poverty and its causes known to Government it would not hesitate to do its best to improve their condition. All that the authorities have so far done in this direction has been the result of their own exertions; and it is to their credit that in spite of being overburdened with official work, they are not indifferent to the welfare of the dumb millions. But, as is apparent, under the existing conditions they cannot translate their sympathy for the agriculturists into deeds to any large extent, or gain a thorough knowledge of the individual wants of each *ilaqa*. It is, therefore, very necessary that the *zamindars* also should do something to help themselves and acquaint Government with the causes of their poverty. The Editor then goes on to say that the Hissar, Karnal, Lahore, Gujranwala, Gujrat and Shahpur Districts, which depend entirely on rainfall, are as poverty-stricken as Bundelkhand, and calls upon Sir Charles Rivaz and Lord Curzon to lend a helping hand to the agricultural classes residing in these districts.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Delhi Darbar.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 20th and 22nd January 1903, continuing its articles on the Coronation Darbar, writes as follows:—

"Of the many spectacles, ceremonials and events which made the great Darbar memorable, the opening of the Art Exhibition was not only the first function of the fortnight, but the foremost among those which answered to the Oriental ideal of a Coronation celebration—*viz.*, the affording of a tangible token of the Rulers' solicitude for the well-being of the masses. * * * * The little energy and enterprise that has been hitherto devoted by our countrymen to the revival of indigenous industries has been confined to a few of those articles alone which supply our everyday needs and requirements. But we have absolutely neglected those higher and characteristically Indian branches of our industries which once lost can never be replaced, and which satisfy

needs no less crying (as far as the upper sections of the community, at any rate, are concerned) than those relating to the body. No doubt the want of food, clothing, household utensils, ordinary furniture and so forth, is of primary importance, and demands our first attention. But rightly considered, the want of things which satisfy the irrepressible craving for the bright, beautiful and the elegant—to remind mortals that the world is not all hurry, dust and struggle— is an equally supreme want after the merely animal stage is past * * * * As a matter of fact the object of the Exhibition is to prevent aimless extravagance and love of vulgar show by an impressive display of articles *trul*" chaste, beautiful and elegant. * * * * But for Lord Curzon's eminently patroitic and practical idea of holding the Exhibition, but for his securing the services of a man of unrivalled special knowledge and experience like Dr. Watt, and but for His Excellency's position which must impel our Chiefs and nobles to give heed to his appeal, the art of making many of the things of surpassing beauty we beheld collected at Delhi would have been forgotton in a few years. If we ponder over this one indisputable fact we can realise to some extent the credit and thanks that are due to our Viceroy. * * * *

" In pointing out, in our last issue, the too censorious attitude adopted by some of our contemporaries with regard to the Darbar arrangements, we said that at the principal functions no distinction was made between the Indian and European spectators as regards reception and seating accommodation. As a rule, the front seats went to those who obtained tickets first, and the rear benches to those who got their cards last. Where the seats were not numbered, the excellent rule of first come first served was followed. There were two exceptions. We have referred to one, *viz.*, the ticket imbroglio in connection with Lord and Lady Curzon's at Home, which exposed some representatives of the Native Press to considerable unintentional indignity. The other exception was the State Ball, to which only ruling Chiefs were invited. We can understand the sensitiveness of most Europeans, specially Anglo-Indian *hakims*, to letting a miscellaneous crowd of ' natives,' gaze on the spectacle of high and mighty officials, at whose name the greatest in the land quake in their shoes, posing, simpering and frisking with grand dames by their sides.

" We regret that as regards the treatment of our countrymen in camp for which the higher authorities can hardly be held responsible, that impartial equality between natives and Europeans was not observed in many important respects which was such a prominent and agreeable feature of the functions. * * * * We met few Indian gentlemen staying in camps, in charge of Government officers, who did not complain (with bated breath) of the disagreeable evidence they had every moment of the difference made between themselves and European guests. * * * * That we do not exaggerate would be evident from a consideration of the difficulties they encountered in the matter of obtaining tickets for the chief events * * * * In one of the Civil Hospital stands, facing the fort *maidan*, on the lower rows of the tier of chairs, we noticed the Maharajas of Burdwan and Durbhanga and the Raja of Balasore among other noblemen. The glittering robes of these princely guests of Government and their retinue seemed out of place in the dust and crush. But we ceased to wonder at their plight when we noticed, on the other side of the roadway, struggling with the lines of sight-seers at their back, Sardar *X*, Dewan *Y*, Nawab *Z*, of Lahore. And only a little way off were the platforms reserved for Europeans, protected from the blazing sun by awnings so cool, quiet and inviting ! Such difference in the accommodation provided for distinguished Indians and European visitors is a common experience in India and was not a thing peculiar to the Darbar. Heaven itself has made the difference ! But we see no justification for indignantly blaming Lord Curzon for all the inevitable worries and inconveniences. * * * * Even to superficial observers it was evident that the *prestige* and the aura of splendour surrounding our great Indian Chiefs was on the decline. * * * * In Lord Lytton's Procession every Chief had his own body guard and principal retainers

surrounding him. It was an Imperial procession in the true sense of the term, in which the might and magnificence of the great feudatories was visible to the eye. In the State entry of Lord Curzon what the assembled thousands from all corners of India saw and reflected on was—the Viceroy of the Emperor tamely followed by a long train of Princes in pairs without any of their own retinue about them! At the end of the progress the Viceroy and the Emperor's brother turned round, and the long double line of Highnesses marched past them salaaming low! At the start the Viceroy and the Emperor's brother had proceeded to their place at the head of the procession through a double line of bowing Chiefs! In India, where no less importance is attached to ceremonial and precedent than was manifested at the Coronation celebration in England, it goes without saying that the omission of His Excellency to return the visits of the Chiefs, and the discarding of the customary artillery salutes in their honour, excited widespread surprise and comment. Of course from a utilitarian point of view these omissions are of little consequence. But the whole Darbar was a repetition of the midieval pomp and circumstance attending the *jalus* of the Grand Moguls. If in respect to everything else the *badshahi* standards and ceremonies were to be followed, how can the people be logically appealed to regard the omission of salutes *mijaz pursi* and return visits in the common-sense light of the XXth century? The difference between the marble audience halls of the Grand Moguls and the Amphitheatre of whitewashed mud and plaster (simulating marble) typifies the difference between the genuineness and suitability of such pomp and display in the times of the Badshah despots and the barely-disguised theatricalness of the whole thing in these days of representative government and democratic ascendancy."

A complaint in connection with the circulation of certain silver coins.

10. The *Shamim-i-Hind* (Jullundur), of the 1st February 1903, says that shop-keepers frequently refuse to accept two and four anna silver pieces which are much worn, and are consequently not of the prescribed weight. The practice originated with Treasury officials, who decline to accept such coins, although the same are legal tender. All that these officials ought to do is to destroy the pieces when they are paid in. The Editor suggests that shop-keepers and Treasury Officers should be directed to accept Government coins without demur.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th February 1903, publishes a communication from a Dr. N. H. Sobar, Johannesburg, who complains that Indian immigrants to the newly conquered colonies labour under several social and political disabilities. They cannot become members of local societies, ride in tramcars, or walk on footpaths. They also experience great difficulty in procuring "residence" or trade passes, and are subjected to several other hardships. The Government of India should do something to safeguard their rights and not leave them to the tender mercies of the colonists.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	13,911	9	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	33	11	0
Total	...	13,945	4	11

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 30th January 1903 ...		790	11	4
Small subscriptions ...	...	72	7	6
Total	...	863	2	10
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
Grand Total	...	10,180	8	8

III.—Native States.

Kashmir affairs.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd February 1903, in an article entitled the "Jammu and Kashmir State and the Double Duty on Salt," makes the following remarks :—

"The Government of India, when it took away the supreme powers from the Ruler of the Jammu and Kashmir Raj, took care to justify its extraordinary action on the ground of the good of the subjects of that Raj, for it was said that 'in the interests of the people of Kashmir it was no longer right or possible to leave the affairs in the hands of the Maharaja'. To most persons it appeared that there would be introduced those reforms in the administration of the State which are calculated to secure to the people contentedness and freedom from anxiety. The land was measured and mapped and cash assessment was fixed. But whether the zamindars of the Jammu Province and the cultivators of the Happy Valley were assessed on one and the same principle of fixing the amount of revenue, or whether the former had to make up the lower rates of the latter, is not our purpose here to examine and explain. Our present object is to point out the special hardship from which the people of all classes and creeds are suffering and which has been allowed to remain up to this date unremoved. It is the double tax on a very indispensable article of daily use for both man and cattle, namely, Salt. There is required to be paid on this article Rs. 2-8-0 per maund at the mines as duty, and as soon as it enters the Jammu State boundary line there the importer is required to pay Re. 1-9-0 more. Thus a consumer living under the protection of the Dogra Raj has to pay rupees four and anna one per maund as duty only for the use of this article.

* * * * * * * *

"The people of British India who have to pay Rs. 2-8-0 per maund as salt-tax are feeling the burden, * * * but what must be the case of those who have to pay more than we do? * * * * The existence of the tax on salt goes to show that there was something else than the *interests of the people* which compelled the Government of India to go against the express terms of the treaty of Amritsar, otherwise an end would have been put to such a tax, which is not only obnoxious but at the same time prejudicial to the physical well-being of the *rayats* of the Raj.

* * * * * * * *

"The Government of India is the owner of the salt mines, and as owner it sells the salt at a fixed price, but in the capacity of a ruling power it has imposed a tax on it which must (? should) be paid by those only who are bound by its Legislative enactments. The Acts and Regulations enacted for the British subjects do not apply to the subjects of the Native States, so they on purchasing the salt are on ordinary principles of trade bound to pay the price and not the amount of tax. If they have to sell it in British India they must under the law which applies to it pay the duty in addition to the fixed price, but if they have to carry it out beyond the limits of British India they should *not* be required to pay this additional amount. The duty in that case, if any, is due to the ruler of the Native State whose subjects consume the salt so exported and not to the owner of the mines."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

5. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 31st January (received on the 9th February) 1903, publishes a report of a sermon delivered by Maulvi Abdul Karim on the 23rd idem. The Maulvi endeavours to prove that *jehads* are mere defensive wars and that there is no force in the objections raised against the same by the foolish Christians of Europe.

VII—General Administration.

(b)—Police.

6. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 6th February 1903, writing about the death of a Police Sergeant at Delhi at the hands of a European soldier, remarks that the Magistrate has convicted the accused only under Section 323 of the Indian Penal Code. Again, he has sentenced the man to undergo imprisonment for only six weeks, on the simple ground that he has been given an excellent character by the Commandant of his regiment. But would he have extended the same treatment to a native Police official charged with the murder of a European soldier, although the accused had been a perfect angel? The incident should teach all native members of the Police Force how dangerous it is to attempt to arrest "Tommy" offenders. Many natives meet their death at the hands of *Goras*, but strangely enough the spleen of each and every one of the victims turns out to be diseased! The Editor then goes on to say that as a matter of fact the spleens of almost all natives become enlarged through poverty and the consumption of unwholesome food. He would, therefore, request Government to make it publicly known that it is dangerous to cause a native even slight hurt, and that Europeans guilty of the act will be considered to have done so with intent to kill the injured party.

The death of a Police Sergeant at the hands of a European soldier.

The Editor further remarks that there can be no doubt that the spleen of the Sergeant in question was diseased. But it is also clear that he was considered equal to the performance of the difficult duties pertaining to the Coronation Darbar. And had he not attempted to arrest the aforesaid soldier he would not have been killed, and in all probability would have lived for many years longer. As it is he has died in the performance of duty; and the heirs of public servants losing their lives in such circumstances are always granted maintenance allowances. The Inspector-General of Police should, therefore, move Government to grant an allowance to those whom Karm Singh's death has deprived of their means of support. If this is not done other Police officials will be deterred from displaying courage in the performance of their duties.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1903, alleges that the present sanitary condition of Amritsar is disgraceful in the extreme. This is due to the fact that the Municipal Secretary pays no attention to the sanitation of the city, while the Conservancy Darogha, Muhammad Din, is also indifferent to the matter. Whenever there is a complaint regarding the sanitation of any part of the city the latter official manages to save his own skin by having poor sweepers and jamadars fined. It is noteworthy that when imposing the fines the Secretary does not deign to hear the defence of the parties punished. The jamadars who were fined in connection with the insanitary condition of the Jhallewalian Katra repeatedly asked to be heard in defence, but to no purpose. The Editor further alleges that the Darogha alone is to blame for the unsatisfactory sanitation of Amritsar, for he

The sanitation of Amritsar.

receives illegal gratification from sweepers and jamadars under him and cannot therefore make them work properly. The Secretary should look into the matter himself and abstain from fining sweepers, &c., on the strength of *exparte* statements.

(f)—Railways and Camunications.

Grievances of 3rd class passengers.

8. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th February 1903, remarks that more than a year back the Government of India issued orders directing that 3rd class carriages in all mail trains should be provided with latrines. The North-Western and certain other Railways, however, have so far done nothing to give effect to these orders. The Supreme Government should, therefore, issue reminders on the subject, and insist on the aforesaid Railways supplying the want at an early date. The Editor also suggests that more than the fixed number of passengers should not be seated in 3rd class carriages, and that during the hot weather the staff of watermen should be doubled, so that the travelling public may experience no difficulty in procuring drinking water. It should also be made easier for 3rd class passengers to purchase their tickets, the number of Booking Clerks at important stations being increased if necessary. The fact that the passengers in question contribute the largest part of the Railway revenues should induce the authorities concerned to adopt the above suggestions.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Coronation Darbar and Native Chiefs.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 24th January 1903, in an article under the heading "The Coronation Darbar as it affects the Native Chiefs," writes as follows :—

"We now propose to look at the Darbar from the Native Chiefs' point of view, to examine how it is likely to effect their position, their status, and their finances. Looked at from this point of view, in the most favourable light we can, we are afraid we shall not find ourselves in a position to congratulate either the Princes or the Viceroy. Financially the Coronation and the festivities connected therewith have taxed the resources of the former rather too heavily. Some of them have added so many figures to their debit balances that for them we do not see any means of getting out of the difficulties in which they have been involved at an early date. The unfortunate death of the late lamented Queen-Empress has, for them, proved to be a veritable catastrophe, landing them into troubles after troubles. The famines preceding her death had involved them heavily in debt. They had not only lost their revenues, but had to spend immense sums of money in affording relief to their subjects. Some of them having lost from 25 to 50 per cent. of their population must find themselves in a most unsatisfactory position with regard to the future. Add to this the heavy contributions that they have had to make, practically under pressure (however indirect it may have been), to the fantastic scheme of Lord Curzon to commemorate the sacred memory of the late Queen. This was accompanied or followed by the visits of the Viceroy himself, which visits too must have cost some States lacs of rupees. But the Coronation festivities have outdone all these demands upon their resources. The expenditure involved in the Coronation visits to England, in presentations to His Majesty the King-Emperor, in the preparations for the Delhi Darbar, are likely to swell the balance-sheets of several States to enormous figures on the minus side. The current year's forecas has in prospect the expected visits of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Connaught and the Prince and Princess of Wales. Add to this the unkindness of the

heavens in withholding rain, and we do not know if the millennium in the finances of these Native States, which shall put an end to all their troubles, is very far off (*sic.*). The Government have for some time past, in various ways, been interfering with the rights and privileges of these States. Under the pretext of enforcing justice they have been most unduly and, in utter defiance of the treaties, constantly meddling with the internal administration of these States. The position of some of the Chiefs is anything but enviable. Any one reading the Treaty which the British Government made with the predecessors of the Kashmir Darbar, and also having a peep into the present administration of Kashmir and Jammu, will be simply struck with the disparity existing between the two, to say nothing of the many humiliations to which His Highness has from time to time been subjected. The same can be said of the leading Phulkian State of Patiala. This is surely a tale of woe. But what will in future be the position of those Chiefs who have taken large loans from the British Government, thus creating the new relationship of debtor and creditor between them? It is simply impossible for us even to conceive the possibilities of future harassment and interference which this new relationship promises to create. Why, if the Chiefs have heretofore been the easily pliable tools of the Viceroy and his colleagues, they will in future be their defaulting debtors whose persons and property must *ex-necessite* be at the mercy of their august creditors. Why not say that in future they will only be the bonded slaves of the Government which advanced them heavy sums of money on the security of their States, not for famine relief only but also to add to the pageant at Delhi which the brain of a talented and highly ambitious Viceroy found occasion to organise. To our lay eyes the future of these Native Chiefs seems to be entirely dark and without even one silver lining of hope. The Chiefs who had (thanks to the prudence of their ancestors) large reserves of accommodating treasures at their command, are also, at the bidding of their Anglo-Indian friends and patrons, quite in a hurry to empty them and in lieu thereof to purchase a few letters of the English alphabet coupled with the sweet smiles of the Viceroy and his colleagues.

" So far with regard to their financial position. But when we consider the humiliations to which Indian Princes have been directly or indirectly subjected during the viceroyalty of Local Curzon, and the climax of which was reached at the Darbar, our heart bursts at the situation. It is Lord Curzon who has, in defiance of the treaties made with their ancestors, put the Phulkian Chiefs under a Political Agent. Bahawalpur and other Native States in the Punjab, too, are, we understand, to be put under the guiding hand of a Political Agent. Who could ever imagine that the proud Rajput and other Chiefs would be made to follow the Viceroy in procession, not in their full princely dignity, with their respective retinues, but as ordinary followers of no distinctive rank ? Even the Moghals never thought of exacting such homage. In his worst days, under the Moslems, Jodhpur could not be expected to pay homage to any but the King or the Royal Family. Then, think of the heartlessness with which two of the foremost of the Ruling Chiefs, one of whom is worshiped like a god by the sentiment-ridden Hindu population, were practically dragged to the Darbar. Even the sacred office of a mourner was not respected, and they had, so to say, to leave the necessary funeral ceremonies half-done. It was probably this strain on his nerves that overcame the revered Maharana of Udaipur and prevented him from attending the Darbar, his presence in Delhi notwithstanding. The reader might well compare the confiding simplicity of the Chiefs in overhauling the inmost recesses of their palaces and the persons of their beloved consorts to add to the pageantry at Delhi, by even sending their best jewellery to the Exhibition for the gratification of the Viceroy, with the beggarly concession granted by the latter in remitting 3 years' interest to such of them as had taken loans from the Government of India, *in honor of the Coronation.* The withdrawal of the customary salutes and the omission of the Viceroy to pay them return visits cannot but have wounded the feelings of the Chiefs very much, as taking away the last vestige of prestige and honour from them. We only wish that the towering intellect of the Viceroy was accompanied with statesmanlike sagacity and farsightedness, Kinglike grace, and respect for the feelings and sentiments of others, placed by Providence in a position of

subordination to a great and liberty-loving nation. A little more of manifestation of regard for the position of Native Chiefs would have rather enhanced than detracted from the royal dignity with which His Excellency was anxious to invest his own. Read between the lines, the Viceroy's speech practically lays down that the Ruling Chiefs in India enjoy more liberty and privileges than they should. Otherwise where was the necessity of so emphatically declaring on a gay and festive occasion that 'it is difficult to give the Princes of India more than they already enjoy, and it is impossible to add to a security whose inviolability is beyond dispute?' The Viceroy's views on the powers of the Native Chiefs are too well-known to require any quotations from his speeches, &c., in support of our belief. There are other proofs, besides, of the Viceroy's anxiety to place further restrictions and limitations upon the exercise of authority by Native Chiefs than what exist at present, and we can only surmise that Darbars like the one recently held are probably calculated to secure that end more effectually and without much agitation. It is an open secret that some at least, if not most of the Ruling Chiefs (may be, perhaps, all) are under an obligation to obtain the formal permission of the Paramount Power, through their Political Agent, before they can leave their territories for a journey inside or outside India. Under the circumstances the Viceroy could not have expressed the situation better than in the words quoted above. Of course it is difficult to give Chiefs more than they possess, but it is not *so difficult* to take away from what they are entitled to, under the treaties. The treatment which the Ruling Chiefs of Kashmir and the Phulkian States in the Punjab have of late received at the hands of the Government amply illustrates our point. All things considered, we are afraid the Darbar cannot be expected to contribute much to add to the respect and affection of the Chiefs towards the British Government in India."

Haji Abdulla Browne.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th February 1903, remarks that Haji Abdulla Browne is a noted journalist and the Editor of the *Egyptian Herald*. He is an Irishman by birth and several years back was a Correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette*, the *Times of India* and the *Civil and Military Gazette*. As the Correspondent of the last-named paper he travelled to Jalalabad and Kanadahar during the second Afghan War, having embraced Islam and visited Mecca previously. At about this time the Haji published a series of letters to the effect that Lord Lytton's government should not displease Afghans, as this was calculated to offend the Mussalmans of India which, in its turn, would lose Government the sympathies of the Prophet's followers throughout the world. It has been his constant endeavour to help in the maintenance of friendly relations between the English and Muhammadans, and it was with this object that he started the *Egyptian Herald*. He now intends converting this paper into a daily, and if he succeeds in collecting £500 from his co-religionists in India his wishes will be realized. The Haji is staying in the *Paisa Akhbar* buildings and will visit Calcutta, Bombay, Madras, &c., before returning home.

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[Confidential.]

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FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 21st February 1903.

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 7.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

1. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th February 1903, says that a persual of certain articles published in the *Novoe Vremya* shows that Russia can no longer abide by her assurances and engagements to have nothing to do with Afghanistan. English newspapers are urging that for the safety of India it is essential that Afghanistan should remain outside the sphere of Russian influence. The *Novoe Vremya* characterises the writings in the British Press as so much nonsense, and would not have the Czar pay the least attention to them. It adds that the times have greatly changed, and that Russia cannot entertain any proposal limiting her influence in any way. The newspaper named also contends that Russia is as much a neighbour of the Afghans as Great Britain, and so forth. From all this it is perfectly clear that the articles published by the *Novoe Vremya* are intended to serve a special purpose. This appears the more probable when one takes into consideration the fact that a severe press censorship exists in the dominions of the Czar. It is, however, a matter for satisfaction that the British Government is aware of Russian designs against Afghanistan, and will not let its interests in that country be injured. Nevertheless the time is certain to come when England and Russia will have to fight for supremacy in Central Asia. In the meantime it is the duty of natives to aid in placing British rule in India on thoroughly stable foundations.

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 16th February 1903, writing about the present complications in the East, expresses the hope that in case Turkey is threatened with a real danger Great Britain will not hesitate to stand by her. Indeed, Indian Muhammadans, who look upon the Sultan as their Caliph, expect nothing less from the British Government, and as they cannot view His Majesty's troubles with equanimity, it appears desirable that Government should not let Turkey come to grief.

England and Turkey.

3. The same paper, dated the 13th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,945	4	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	11	0
Total	...	*13,950	15	11

*Of this Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Book.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated the 13th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th February 1903		863	2	10
Small subscriptions ...	...	2	3	0
Total	...	865	5	10
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	9,317	5	10
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,182	11	4

(*b*)—*Home.*

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 13th February 1903, after publishing the substance of Lord George Hamilton's recent speech at Bradford, remarks that His Lordship appears to be fully aware of the value of India. He would also seem to be solicitous about her welfare, which is very fortunate for natives. It is true that the National Congress does not agree with the Noble Lord and advocates a radical change in the mode of administration. There can be no doubt that the speech will be adversely criticised in Congress newspapers, especially the part of it in which the speaker remarked that it was necessary that "our rule in India should be autocratic." The Editor feels confident that this declaration on Lord George Hamilton's part will serve as a check to Congress propaganda.

Lord George Hamilton on Indian affairs.

6. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th February 1903, writing on the same subject, observes that the speech is so worded as to please the people of India and lead them to think that Lord George Hamilton is inclined to deal generously by their country. Read between the lines, however, the speech would show that His Lordship is determined to continue having every thing his own way and turning a deaf ear to the prayers of poor natives.

The same.

II—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

7. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), dated the 18th February 1903, remarks that there is no truth in the report published by some Anglo-Indian newspapers that of late the relations between the Government of India and His Highness the Amir have become strained. It is to be

The Anglo-Indian Press and Afghanistan affairs.

regretted that a responsible and well-informed organ of public opinion like the *Pioneer* should be guilty of publishing unfounded reports on the subject. But the worst of it is that these reports are reproduced by the English Press, which thus helps to disseminate them throughout the world. The Editor would request Anglo-Indian newspapers to abstain from publishing unauthenticated news about Afghanistan, reminding them that that course is calculated to create estrangement between Government and the Amir.

III.—Native States.

The Maharaja of Kashmir's visit to Calcutta.

8. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th February 1903, remarks that conjecture is busy as to the object of the Maharaja of Kashmir's visit to Calcutta at the invitation of Lord Curzon. Some say that his Lordship is desirous of consulting the Maharaja on the subject of the defence of the Kashmir Frontier, while others are of opinion that the consultation will have reference to the construction of certain railways. Others again aver that His Highness is to be invested with full ruling powers, whilst some are of opinion that the Viceroy wishes to sound Sir Partap Singh on the subject of strengthening the British garrison in Gilgit and Hunzanagar. The Editor cannot say what truth there is in these rumours, but he has no doubt the visit will benefit the Maharaja in some way or another.

The same.

9. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th and 18th February 1903, on the same subject, remarks that Lord Curzon is a man of rare tact. His regard for appearances is as great as his skill in gaining his ends. He works in such a way that it is only after he has accomplished an object that the world comes to know that he had it in view at all. The question of the Berars had been hanging fire for half a century, and more than one Prime Minister, Indian Secretary of State, and Viceroy had been unable to solve it. Lord Curzon had a few minutes' talk with the Nizam, and Lo! the thing is settled for ever. The public, however, came to know of this only after the final solution had been arrived at. The decision regarding the abdication of Holkar, which took place only four weeks after the Coronation Darbar, was also kept secret until the last moment. It is now the turn of the Maharaja of Kashmir. The reader should not infer from this that His Highness also is about to retire from the government of his State. So far from this being so, he is likely to get an accession of honour, as has been the case with the Ruler of Hyderabad, who received the highest title at the aforesaid Darbar, albeit on a certain condition. The writer then goes on to say that of late frontier affairs have been claiming the largest share of the attention of Government. The question regarding Russo-Afghan relations has assumed a very serious aspect and the Muscovite Government is concentrating forces near Afghanistan. It is this which has led the Viceroy to select a man of the calibre of Lord Kitchener to command the Indian Army. Lord Curzon may also attempt to make the Amir help Government in warding off the above danger, and with this object may invite His Highness to this country. For the present His Lordship wishes to deal with the Maharaja of Kashmir, whose loyalty and devotion to the British Throne are well known. Most probably the Viceroy

is desirous of ensuring the thorough defence of the long line of frontier comprising Gilgit, Ladakh, Chitral, &c. He is, therefore, anxious that the first named two places should be under the direct control of Government, and that with regard to them also some arrangements similar to those arrived at in the case of the Berars should be made. And such things he can settle better by conversation than by correspondence, for in the course of the former one can say things and refer to considerations which it would be inexpedient to commit to writing. There can, therefore, be no doubt that Lord Curzon will ask the Maharaja to transfer his frontier districts to Government; and as His Excellency possesses a persuasive tongue he will be certain to impress on Sir Partap Singh the advantages of the step in such a manner as to make the latter believe that the transfer would make his position much safer by securing his dominions immunity from foreign invasion. If the Maharaja agrees to the above arrangements he will annually receive from Government a sum equal to or exceeding his net income from the tract to be transferred. Should he, however, be averse to a curtailment of his territories he will be offered some place in British India in exchange for Gilgit and Ladakh. The bargain, if made, will establish the loyalty of the Ruler of the Happy Valley beyond doubt; and it is not improbable that this may lead to his investiture with full powers of government. Lord Curzon will then turn his attention to the Amir and put His Highness' friendship for Great Britain to the test.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Tea Cess Bill.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th February 1903, has the following on the subject of the Tea Cess :—

"Taking the view expressed in our last issue that one effect of the Tea Cess will be to make the Indian ryot contract the tea habit, which means the cultivating of dyspepsia a Calcutta contemporary proceeds to consider what this will mean financially to India. The Calcutta paper contends that it is wrong to call the tea industry an Indian industry, seeing that 95 per cent. of the area under tea is worked by British capital, the remaining 5 per cent. only being accountable to indigenous enterprise. Any improvement in the industry, through larger consumption of tea, would mean an addition of 95 per cent. of the profits thus secured to foreign capital, and only 5 per cent. to the productive wealth of the country. When it is further considered that the cess will be mainly used to create new markets in India, and that the profits will therefore come out of the pockets of the Indians, the success of the experiment means the direct annual loss to the nation of an amount equal to 95 per cent. of the increased profits of the industry due to the expanded trade. The present trade of India is almost entirely with foreign countries, and the markets of these countries have been almost fully exploited. British consumption of tea has reached its maximum, and Americans are experimenting to grow tea in their own country, while Chinese tea is being pushed with vigour in the United States as well as in other countries. It is plain, therefore, that the efforts as well as the hopes of the Tea Expansionists will be confined mainly to India. At present the annual consumption of tea in India represents about 300,000 lbs. Taking the wholesale price of tea at 8 annas per pound on an average, this means that India now pays to the tea growers for her own consumption about a lakh and fifty thousand rupees. Now the excess of outturn over consumption of Indian tea in the year 1900 was something like 20,000,000 lbs. Supposing this excess quantity could be found markets in India, it would mean a crore of rupees more coming out of the pockets of the Indian people, of which 95 lakhs would go out of the country to fill the pockets of foreign capitalists and only 5 lakhs would remain as the share of the Indian tea-growers. We are glad to see that the Native Press in general

have been aroused to see what expansion of the tea trade in India means financially and physically to its people. When Messrs. Andrew Yule & Co. started their Tea Markets Expansion Syndicate the *Tribune* was perhaps the only paper which offered a vigorous protest against the designs of the exploiters, while there were not a few Native journalists whose weakness for the steaming cup—fed as it was by handsome presents of sample packets—made them look with favour upon the scheme. It is to be hoped now, that notwithstanding what the Government and the planters may do, the Native Press will as a body exert their influence to prevent the spread of the tea habit among the masses of India."

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*).—*Education.*

11. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), dated the 16th February 1903, learns that several important changes are to be introduced in the Punjab Education Department from April next. One of the proposals is to establish a Model School at the head-quarters of each district, Municipalities having nothing to do with the management of these schools. It is also under contemplation to increase the salary attaching to the post of Head Master and to appoint Europeans to these posts, with the object of improving the study of English in Secondary Schools. Having regard, however, to the multiplicity of subjects taught in these schools and the large number of books prescribed in each subject, the object in view seems impossible of attainment. Indeed, under the existing arrangements, the students reading in the said institutions cannot acquire proficiency in any of the subjects taught. Another of the proposals is to increase the number of Inspectorships and create about 20 posts of District Inspector of Schools.

The impending changes in the Education Department, Punjab.

12. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th February 1903, writing on the same subject, expresses the hope that the claims of Muhammadans to their share of the new posts will not be overlooked. It may be pointed out that the orders regarding the proportion of Hindus to Muhammadans in the public service are honoured more in the breach than in the observance. The Hindus, who hold almost all high posts and are relied upon by their official superiors, manage to pitchfork their own co-religionists into all vacancies occurring under them. The Educational Department, Punjab, is no exception to the rule, and the Prophet's followers, notwithstanding their possessing special aptitude for the work of teaching, have fared badly in this branch of the service. It is, however, only fair to add that the Muhammadans, who were slow to appreciate the advantages of English education, and started in the race rather late, are also to blame for this state of affairs. The Editor then requests the Director of Public Instruction to consider the claims of Muhammadans to the aforesaid new appointments, and suggests that Musalman teachers serving in Board Schools should be promoted to pensionable posts, the places vacated by them being filled by new men. He would also suggest that in case a separate Education Department is formed for the Frontier Province the services of such Muhammadan teachers as are willing to go to that part of the country should be lent to the Department.

The Muhammadans and the Education Department, Punjab.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

13. The *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 30th January 1903, in an article on "The Moral Aspect of the Delhi Darbar" makes the following remarks:—

The Delhi Darbar and the representatives of the Native Press.

"It is beyond our province to dabble in politics. Moreover, we are of opinion that under the peculiar circumstances of this country at present, it will be more profitable for us and our countrymen at large to try to learn rather than to teach. There will be ample time to speak to others of their duties and of their failure in having performed them after we have learnt our own, not in theory alone, but *in practice* as well. Of course we are speaking from a religious and moral point of view. It has pained us very much to see that press criticism of the Darbar should have entirely ignored the part played by Indians in humbling themselves and in showing to our rulers the utter rot we are. We doubt if any other people could do more to degrade themselves in the eyes of others as we unfortunately did on this occasion. We spared nothing to prove, if any further proof was needed, of the utter wreck of our sense of self-respect. From the aristocracy of birth downwards to the aristocracy of the pen, all behaved so badly as to give reason to believe that the nation was devoid of any sense of self-respect. The competition amongst the Ruling Chiefs was not confined to the showing off of jewels and diamonds, of carriages and palanquins, of elephants and horses, but descended to the engaging of dancing girls at fabulous prices, not to speak of the numerous other little things in which they tried to outdo each other, with a view to win favours and gain popularity. * * * We can, however, excuse them as a class, firstly because most of them could not lay any claims to education in the proper sense of the term, and, secondly, because even those who were educated men were probably afraid of being suspected of disregarding the wishes of the Viceroy, who, as they understood, wanted the pageant to be as imposing as it was in the power of man to make. But what excuse can we plead for the many weaknesses of character which it was the *privilege* of the aristocracy of letters to display? Can any Viceroy have any regard for the opinions or the criticisims of any class of men who, although crying hoarse over the perfidy of the Viceroy in spending the money of the famine-stricken tax-payer in an unnecessary show and tamasha, were the readiest of all people to enjoy to the fill, out of the same perfidious extravagance? Did they not abet the Viceroy? The slightest idea of self-respect should have determined their attitude. Either they should have refused the hospitality of the Viceroy, or they should have made only the barest use of it. * * * Of course there were several honourable exceptions, but these latter must suffer in estimation if they do not choose to denounce and make an example of those who brought disgrace on the whole party of reform and progress by drinking the health of the Viceroy with gallons of liquor. Just think of the money of the poor tax-payer being freely spent in the supply of liquor to the guests at Delhi? * * *

of them. The letter-press runs as follows:—"Justice demands that the Income Tax should now be remitted: at least it is necessary that some reduction should be effected in it. Only such an act of generosity can be a historic memorial (of the Darbar)."

The need of libraries and reading-rooms in the Punjab.

15. Tahl Ram, M. R. A. S., of Dera Ismail Khan, writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 20th February 1903, states that his father has, by a will, set apart property valued at Rs. 50,000 for the promotion of the public good. The writer is prepared to render all possible help, out of the income from this property, in the establishment of libraries and reading-rooms in the different parts of the Punjab. He adds that for the welfare of India it is essential that these institutions should exist in every district and tahsil, for it is by reading newspapers, &c., that educated natives can acquire a knowledge of their country's wants.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—27-2-03—96.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th February 1903, announces that by the end of January the Hedjaz Railway Committee, Constantinople, had collected about Rs. 80,00,000 and that the necessary locomotives and carriages are new being constructed, some having already been finished and supplied. The Editor adds that the Rs. 2,280-4-7, collected by the Delhi Committee on the occasion of the Coronation Darbar and otherwise, have been remitted to Turkey, the money-order commission, &c., having been paid by the said body. The Committee was established through the efforts of Mir Nasir-ud-din, Syad Hasan Raza Khan and Hakim Ghulam Raza Khan. It makes no deductions from the subscriptions on account of the stationery used and the rent of the building in which its office is located.

The same.

2. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions to the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 13th February ...	865	5	10
Small subscriptions	56	8	0
Total ...	921	13	10
Deduct amount remitted to Turkey on the 16th February	755	5	10
Balance now in hand	166	8	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey up to date	10,072	11	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,239	3	4

3. The *Vakil* (Lahore), of the 20th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,950	15	11
Small subscriptions from Nushki	...	28	12	0
Total	...	13,975	11	11

4. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd February 1903, acknowledges receipt of Rs. 32 collected in some place (name not given) in the Nizam's dominions.

The same.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 19th February 1903, states that the Maharaja of Kashmir's visit to Calcutta at the invitation of the Viceroy has created great uneasiness throughout the country. The sudden abdication of Maharaja Holkar has led many people to fear that the ruler of the Happy Valley also might relinquish the government of his State of his own free will. It is also thought that, may be, Sir Partap Singh is to be invested with full powers of administration and that Lord Curzon is desirous of imparting the glad tidings to His Highness in person. But all this is mere conjecture: the object of the visit has been kept so secret that even the *Pioneer* has no inkling of it.

The Maharaja of Kashmir's visit to Calcutta.

6. The *Faisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st February 1903, remarks that speculation is rife as to the object of the Maharaja's visit to the Metropolis. One of the rumours is that just as Government has taken over the Berars from the Nizam or quietly deposed Holkar, Sir Partap Singh is also to be forced to give up Jammu and Kashmir and accept a *jagir* in the Sialkot or Jhelum District instead. It is also whispered about that full ruling powers are to be restored to His Highness; but this is highly improbable, seeing that the Coronation Darbar afforded the best opportunity for the performance of this act of grace. At any rate, the visit is a significant one, and the residents of the Punjab and Kashmir are anxiously waiting for its result.

The same.

VII.—General Administration.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th February 1903, publishes a copy of the proceedings of a meeting (held in June 1887) of the Allahabad Municipal Board at which it was decided to dismiss certain octroi officials charged with having embezzled Municipal funds. The Editor adds that these officials are now employed in the Octroi Department of the Amritsar Municipality, and that not long ago they were prosecuted for

Complaint against certain octroi officials at Amritsar.

embezzlement in the latter city also. Again, their honesty has been impugned more than once, and complaints against them are constant and of a serious nature. So far, however, no notice has been taken of their conduct. The Deputy Commissioner should look into the matter and dispense with their services. In case this is not done, the Editor will forward certain documents to the head of the Amritsar District, and shew the aforesaid robbers that there is at least one man who will let them have no rest.

(d)—Education.

Muhammadans and the Examinerships of the Bombay University.

8. A correspondent writing to the *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), dated 23rd February 1903, publishes a synopsis of the results of the examinations of the Bombay University for 1902, and remarks that the Muhammadan residents of the Western Presidency lag behind other sections of the people. He then goes on to say that all public offices in the said part of the country are almost entirely manned by non-Musalmans, and that even the competent among tbe Prophet's followers find it difficult to secure employment under Government. Nay, even the Examinerships of the local University seem to be beyond their reach. Muhammadans are of course appointed Examiners in Arabic, Persian and Urdu, but this is from sheer necessity. For scores of other subjects, Hindus, Parsis, Christians and Jews—nay, even their females—alone are selected. The correspondent exhorts Mr. Justice Badr-ud-din Tyabji and certain other Musalman gentlemen to draw the attention of the Senate and Syndicate to the matter.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

A complaint against Vaccinators.

9. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), dated 24th February 1903, publishes a communication the writer of which, after dwelling on the ravages of small-pox, remarks that vaccination serves as a preventive against the malady. The Vaccinators, however, who tour in villages, are by no means intelligent or experienced operators. Nor do they carry a sufficient quantity of lymph with them, with the result that they cannot perform the operation in a satisfactory manner. Again, their main object seems to be to make money, and if "tipped" they will not vaccinate children. Their existence, therefore, is not of much use to the people, and Government should put an end to this state of affairs. The writer further remarks that on the outbreak of small-pox in a village or town, all communication between the place and the outside public should be cut off, in order to prevent the disease spreading further.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore.—5-3-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that Russia does not care to conceal her designs against Afghanistan, and that a war between the two countries is likely to break out at no distant date. Certain recent doings of Russia would also show that she has completed her preparations for this war and can take the field at a moment's notice. As to the object she has in view, it is an open secret that she wishes to obtain possession of Afghanistan, so as to facilitate her invasion of India. The correspondent then goes on to say that Russia has preferred certain accusations against the Amir and given England "notice" to make His Highness leave off his mischievous ways. The violence of Russia's anger betokens war, and the British Government does not know what answer to give her, for they are anxious to avoid offending both the Czar and the Ruler of Kabul.

Ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa.

2. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st March 1903, remarks that, although India is spoken of as "the brightest jewel in the British Crown," and without her England would be reduced to the position now occupied by Switzerland, Indian immigrants in South Africa are grossly ill-treated. They were under the impression that after the annexation of the Transvaal and the Orange River Colony the disabilities from which they had been suffering under the Kruger rule would be removed. They have, however, been sadly disappointed, and are being treated worse than dogs. It is to be regretted that even Mr. Chamberlain's tour in the *ex*-Boer republics should have brought no relief to the Indian immigrants.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1903, writing about Macedonian affairs, remarks that it is not unlikely that the question may have to be referred to the arbitrament of the sword, especially as the great Powers of Europe have nothing of importance to occupy them at the present moment. It is, however, possible that matters may not come to such a deplorable pass. England does not hanker after any Turkish possession and regards it as impolitic to go to war with the Turks. Austria is not in a position to fight Turkey, while Germany considers it more to her interest to live on friendly terms with the Sultan. Russia, of course, is an old enemy of the Turks, and has been in the habit of invading their country about every twenty-fifth year. Her history for the last quarter of a century, however, shows clearly enough that there is very little likelihood of her waging another war with Turkey, especially when the campaign of 1877 had the effect of opening her eyes to the fact that the other Powers would not allow her to profit by her victory in any way. Besides, a war with the Turks will be certain to arrest for years Russiás expansion in Central Asia, where a vast field lies before her. Like Germany, moreover, she is aware that she can benefit herself much more by cultivating the Sultan's friendship. There is consequently no fear of Russia coming to blows with Turkey over the Macedonian question, particularly as the present ruler of the latter country will resist all attempts to deprive him of even one inch of his European possessions so long as he has a single soldier left. The Editor then goes on to say that a correspondent enquires whether in case a war does break out the *Watan* could be issued daily to supply the latest news. In the first place every Muhammadan should pray to God to avert the danger. Should, however, the fates decree otherwise, the *Watan* will not hesitate to issue daily bulletins (to be supplied at cost price), provided a sufficient number of subscribers is forthcoming.

Macedonian affairs.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th February 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that signs are not wanting to show that a war is imminent. The Porte may display great patience for a time; but how long? The Macedonians insist on not living under Turkey, although they may have to wade to their goal through blood. To make matters worse, they are backed by Russia and Austria; on what principles of equity these Powers alone must know. Had the European Powers any love of truth, justice and peace, they would have brought pressure to bear on the Macedonians to keep quiet, at least as long as the Porte had not expressed an opinion on the proposed reforms. If the Turkish Government had refused to adopt the reforms and had done so from sheer perversity, the matter would have been quite different. A decisive war could then have settled for ever whether the "Sick Man" had recovered and was able to defend his possessions, or whether his infirmities were such that his kingdom should be partitioned. The Editor further remarks that if the Turkish possession of Jerusalem is at the bottom of the Powers' hostile attitude towards Turkey and this leads to her being involved in danger, her enemies will have to reckon, not with the Sultan, but with the whole Islamic world. It is to be wished that the peaceable

The same.

England would, in conjunction with some other Powers, throw oil on the troubled waters.

The Hedjaz Railway.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	13,979	11	11
Small subscriptions	...	29	6	0
Total	...	14,009	1	11

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 20th February 1903		166	8	0
Small subscriptions		106	10	0
Total	...	273	2	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,338	7	4

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

Defence of the Frontier.

7. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd February 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer says that not long ago Lord Curzon decided to withdraw the British troops posted on the North-West Frontier and replace them by local levies. His Excellency had two objects in view in coming to the decision,—to convert the tribesmen into peaceful citizens, and to make them cease to regard Government with suspicion. In a recent issue the *Pioneer* has raised the following two objections to this arrangement :—

(1) That although sufficient recruits were forthcoming in the beginning, their number has begun to decrease of late.

(2) That the men recruited leave the service after they have received the necessary training, and have to be replaced by new men; and that if this continues much longer, all the frontier tribes will soon become conversant with modern methods of warfare, which Government may rue one day.

There is some force in the first objection. If a person is unwilling to serve under Government, its liberal principles forbid it to compel him to do so. As for the second objection, not the least weight should be attached to it. Indeed, by parity of reasoning, Punjabis and other natives also should be excluded from the Army. The only way to win the hearts of the tribesmen is to take them into the Army and make soldiers of their sons.

By way of precaution, however, a law could be passed requiring every soldier to serve for 15 years at least. But to distrust them and refuse to recruit them will only alienate their sympathies from Government still more. The writer concludes by remarking that *Maulvis* and *Mullas* should be paid allowances in order to make the frontier tribes loyal.

III.—Native States.

The abdication of Holkar.

8. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1903, publishes a cartoon in which Maharaja Holkar is seen with a walking-stick in his hand and ready to go out. The new Ruler of Indore is represented by a puny little man riding a lean, lanky horse led by a coated and pantalooned gentleman, labelled "English Government." The letter press runs as follows:—

"The nightingale has removed its nest from the garden:
"What does it care whether an owl or a *huma** inhabits (the garden now)?"

The Maharaja of Kashmir and the Nawab of Bahawalpur.

9. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th February 1903, states that the Maharaja of Kashmir's mysterious visit to Calcutta and the postponment of the investure of His Highness the Nawab of Bahawa lpur with ruling powers have given currency to several rumours regarding these Chiefs. The general public has begun to regard Lord Curzon's Govern ment with suspicion owing to his having taken over the Berars from the Nizam, compelled Maharaja Holkar to abdicate and deposed the Rulers of Panna and Jhallawar. Under these circumstances, it behoves His Excellency to allay public suspicion by conferring full powers of government on the Maharaja of Kashmir and the Nawab of Bahawalpur, the latter of whom has succeeded in acquiring a thorough knowledge of State affairs.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Lord Curzon's recent gift to the Imperial Mosque, Delhi.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th February 1903, remarks that Lord Curzon's recent gift of Rs. 1,500 to the Imperial Mosque at Delhi has sent many a simple-minded Muhammadans into raptures. These good men do not, however, pause to reflect that if all the Government guests who were admitted *gratis* into the Mosque to view the elephant procession and the display of fireworks, had been made to pay for the use of the building at the rates then prevalent at Delhi, the Committee of the Mosque would have realized ten times the aforesaid amount. The Editor then goes on to say that several years back Government resumed possession of some villages attached to the Imperial Mosque. The *Mutwallis* took advantage of His Majesty's Coronation to petition Government to release the villages; and probably it was in the hope of gaining their end that they set aside the best part of the Mosque for Government guests. Lord Curzon, however, has paid no heed to their request, which he has evaded by flinging Rs. 1,500 to them. It is therefore a gross mistake to suppose that His Lordship has rendered any pecuniary help to the Mosque.

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* An imaginary bird. It is said that the head it over shadows will one day wear a crown.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

The sanitation of Amritsar.

11. The *Haq Pasand* (Amritsar), of the 21st February 1903, remarks that it was expected that the outbreak of the plague in Amritsar would prompt conservancy officials to pay greater regard to the sanitation of the city. The expectation has not, however, been realized ; nay, things have gone from bad to worse. The Editor is afraid that so long as the aforesaid officials are not treated with rigour, and some of them are not replaced by new men, there is no prospect of the evil being remedied. Sweepers and watermen are not to blame in any way ; nay, they work for longer periods than they are bound to do. It may be mentioned here that some time back a certain sweeper was paid Rs. 2-8-0 and that out of this he was asked to give eight annas for the Naib Darogha and a similar sum for a certain higher official. On the man declining to submit to the extortion, he was dismissed the service. The Editor then goes on to say that the local Municipal Commissioners think of the cleanliness of their own houses and *kuchas* alone and appropriate to their private use all the phenyle, &c., supplied to them for distribution to the people. He would, therefore, request the Municipal Secretary to himself take the trouble of looking after the sanitation of the city and prevent the Daroghas from ill-treating sweepers and watermen.

(g)—*Postal matters.*

A suggestion to remit money order commission in connection with the payment of land revenue.

12. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 28th February 1903, suggests that zamindars should be charged no commission for remitting land revenue by postal money orders.

(h)—*Miscellaneous.*

The income tax.

13. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1903, publishes a cartoon in which an income tax muharrir is seen with a register of receipts in his hand. Old mother India, who stands near by, addresses him thus :—" Leave this register alone, my son. I apply to you to repeal the tax in the name of God and that of the King-Emperor." The comment of the *Punch* is contained in the following line :—" For the generous-minded it is not difficult to grant requests."

Haji Abdulla Browne.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th February 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 10 of Selection No. 6), reports that after about a month's stay at Lahore Haji Abdulla Browne, Editor of the *Egyptian Herald*, started for Bombay on the 23rd idem. Before leaving Lahore he received a cheque for Rs. 1,000 from a European gentleman, who does not wish his name to be disclosed, in aid of the *Herald*. This gentleman has, however, stipulated that the money shall be used only when Rs. 4,000 more have been collected from other sources. At Bombay the Haji will put up at the Great Western Hotel.

15. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1903, writing on the same subject, states that Haji Abdulla Browne requires Rs. 15,000 to start his new paper. Of this Rs. 6,000 have been promised him in Egypt, and the balance he wishes to collect in India. He brought an introductory letter to the Viceroy from Lord Cromer, but the former has not returned a favourable answer to it. The Haji has left Lahore for Bahawalpur and Patiala, taking with him introductory letters from Mr. Finney, Manager of the North-Western Railway, who is an old friend of his.

The same.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—14-3-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Macedonian affairs.

1. The *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 7th March 1903, reprints an article from the *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), in which the latter newspaper, writing about Macedonian affairs, observes that by adopting the reforms proposed in the Russo-Austrian Note, Turkey will be severing her connection with Macedonia and creating another Bulgaria to add to her difficulties. The Turks will not, however, give up Macedonia, although they may have to fight with Russia and Austria for it. And if a war does break out, which seems very probable, the world will hear of many an Usman Pasha and Mukhtar Pasha, and lakhs of women and children will be rendered widows and orphans.

The same.

2. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th March 1903, after remarking that the Sultan has agreed to carry out the reforms proposed in the Russo-Austrian Note, says that it is easy to understand from this that His Majesty is a mere figure-head and that the Powers have everything their own way in Turkey. Abdul Hamid could not afford to displease the Powers, for by doing so he would lose the little power he has managed to acquire by following a policy of peace for years past. It is, however, surprising that both Russia and Turkey should continue their preparations for a war. There can be no doubt that in a year or two Turkey will have to make a great military demonstration in order to make her existence felt.

The same.

3. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 11th March 1903, writing on the same subject, makes remarks similiar to those published by the Watan (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 9).

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 27th February 1903	...	...	273	2	0
Small subscriptions	...	...	84	4	0
Total	...		357	6	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	...		10,065	5	4
Grand Total	...		10,422	11	4

VII.—General Administration.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

5. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th March 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 7 of Selections No. 8), says that the officials dismissed by the Allahabad Municipal Board in 1887 are Hikmatulla (Tahsildar) and Nazar Ali (Daroga) of the Amritsar Octroi Department. They have not, however, given up their old practices and have been embezzling octroi funds with the help of their own men employed in the department. Several local newspapers have been complaining of the conduct of these officials, but nothing has come of it, even specific charges preferred against Hikmatulla and others in the *Ahluwalia Gazette* not having been enquired into. The Deputy Commissioner should dispense with t he services of the officials complained against so as to protect the new Secret ary from their sinister influence.

Complaint against certain Octroi officials at Amritsar.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

6. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th March 1903, publishes a communication from a correspondent in England (Mr. Aziz Ahmad ?) who in the course of his letter makes the following remarks :—

Mr. Aziz Ahmad on matters Indian.

"For God's sake tell your readers that as many of them as can should go and settle in Burma and the Malay Peninsula. Burmese women are partial to Indian males, and children born of Indian fathers and Burmese mothers are called *Zirbadi* (?). So go and propagate *Zirbadi* and enrich those countries with the Urdu language. It is no use starving in India. Last year 500,000 natives emigrated from India. Were all editors and preachers to unite and make the necessary efforts, double the number would emigrate this year. India is in the grip of famine and plague: go to foreign lands and live in comfort. Do not make yourselves a burden to your relations: you should work for your bread. I myself have been an exile for the last 31 years, having left India at the age of 15. See how my brother Amba Pershad (Editor of the *Jami-ul-Ulum* who is in jail) is living at Government expense. * * * * gold and silver medals are undoubtedly prepared in England, but the cost thereof is recovered from India. At all events, Christian Missionaries ought

to have declined to accept these medals. This would have gladdened the spirit of Christ, proved of some gain to Government and made the Missionaries a little popular with the common people. As it is, the sensible people of Great Britain are highly displeased (with the recipients of the medals). 'The Missionary-worshippers' among them are of course under the impression that the Missionaries in question must have rendered some service to Government to win the approbation of the authorities. * * * * The Prime Minister, Sir William——, a former Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces, and some other leading Scots have given subscriptions ranging from £10 to £20 with the object of establishing an Indian boarding-house in Edinburgh. The 'cute Scotch noblemen will subscribe only two or three hundred pounds and tell inexperienced Indian students to 'go and beg (the rest) from foolish well-to-do natives.' The money will be collected by these students, but the 'Scotch Company' will deposit it in its own bank. British masons and carpenters will earn thousands of rupees, while some Briton will be certain to be appointed Manager of the boarding-house. All real authority will be in the hands of strangers, *viz.*, Britons. Indian students will have to slave and run errands for nothing. British statesmen and professors want more money from India, while ever so many memorial funds have been opened in the country. Where, then, is the money required for the Aligarh University, the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, and the Nadawa to come from? * * * * * Indian newspapers are shortly to be put to the test. The hubbub over the Darbar has subsided, and the doors of British Justice are wide open. The British nation is not tyrannical or ungrateful by nature, and may be depended upon to carefully examine the question of the Berars. * * * * It is very necessary that Hyderabad should practise economy; but this does not mean that it should not subscribe to a large number of national papers or that it should reduce the State forces. It should cut down unnecessary and useless expenditure and wipe off its debts at an early date. * * * * Indian flattery is worse than heathenism. One may tolerate idolatry, but who can put up with flattery when there is nothing but contempt in the flatterer's heart. It is to be wished that the people of India would give up flattering foreigners or their own countrymen. * * * A nation of flatterers can never prosper. * * * The Northbrook Club, London, has wasted lakhs of Indian money, but only the English have profited thereby. Indian students at Edinburgh now wish to fleece well-to-do but foolish natives in order to please certain selfish Englishmen."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—20-3-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 21st March 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1903, remarks that, through her Ambassador in London, Russia has formally expressed to the British Government a desire to establish commercial relations with Afghanistan. It has not yet transpired whether she has also addressed His Highness the Amir direct on the subject. This much, however, is certain that if she does not gain her end now she will redouble her efforts and come out successful in the long run. But this will not be to the advantage of Afghanistan, seeing that every country coming under Russian influence invariably fares badly. For instance, Persia has steadily been losing prestige and importance ever since Russia has obtained a footing on her soil. On the other hand, the British Government's policy in Afghanistan is to preserve the integrity and independence of that country. Were, however, the Czar's Government to persist in their desire to establish commercial relations with Kabul, England would have to give in one day; and this would certainly lead to Afghanistan being parcelled out between England and Russia It, therefore, behoves Amir Habibulla Khan to give the matter his most serious consideration.

Macedonian affairs.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, writing about Macedonian affairs, remarks that, although the Sultan has agreed to introduce the reforms proposed in the Russo-Austrian note, the Bulgarians have not yet returned to peaceful ways of life. It is scandalous that Russia, France, Austria and other European Powers, which write threatening notes to the Porte anent the most trifling occurrences in the Balkan States, should connive at the doings of the Bulgarians and others. Reuter has of course wired that Russia and Austria have threatened to cease supporting Bulgaria in case the last-named does not abandon her aggressive attitude; but this is merely

make-believe. The impression is general in well-informed political circles in Europe that the Bulgarians are backed by Russia, and that it is not improbable that war will break out between the Muscovites and Turks in the coming spring. In support of this view the Editor publishes a translation of a report of an interview which a representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* recently had with a retired Turkish Military Officer on the subject.

The same.

3. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th February (received on the 16th March) 1903, publishes similar remarks.

Russia and Turkey.

4. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the Russian bear is seen holding in its forepaws a parchment enumerating the reforms the Czar would like introduced in the Balkan States, Roumania, &c. The cartoon is meant to convey the impression that Russia's attitude towards Turkey is calculated to lead to political complications.

The rebellion in Morocco.

5. Mr. Aziz Ahmad writing to the *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, remarks as follows:—

"Thank God Sultan Abdul Aziz has proved victorious in Morocco. May the Almighty teach him to be careful of the (Christian) Powers of Europe in future! At present the French are desirous of subjugating the African Arabs. The latter are ready to fight, but, excepting the Turks, no one wishes them well. May the Sultan of Turkey continue to befriend Muhammadans, and may the latter prove devoted followers of their Caliph!"

The Hedjaz Railway.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th March 1903	357	6	0
Small subscriptions	1	0	0
Total ...	358	6	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,423	11	4

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

England and Afghanistan.

7. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st (received on the 16th) March 1903, publishes another cartoon intended to depict the condition of Afghanistan. A water-carrier labelled "England" is seen watering a few shrubs and plants (the garden of Kabul), while the letter-press runs as follows:—"The water-carrier, for one, does his utmost to make the garden thrive, but the soil is so hard that he cannot improve it as he will."

III.—Native States.

The *Baluchistan Gazette* on Kashmir and its ruler.

8. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th March 1903, states that in its issue of the 4th idem the *Observer* reprints an article recently published by the *Baluchistan Gazette* under the heading "Kashmir and its Ruler." The article not only comes as a surprise to the public, but is also calculated to create a feeling of uneasiness among the Dogras. Although the question of taking back Kashmir is not at present under consideration, the *Baluchistan Gazette* has advised Government to take that step. This can only have the effect of wounding the feelings of Sir Partab Singh, especially as the article is couched in offensive language. As such writings are calculated to create misapprehensions among the public, the Editor deems it advisable to publish a refutation of the above article, although he is fully aware that nothing is further from Government's mind than a desire to take back Kashmir. He then goes on to say that the *Baluchistan Gazette* is wrong in stating that the Happy Valley was made over to Maharaja Gulab Singh simply because Government was afraid of fighting him. The fact is that the said part of the country was bestowed on His Highness in recognition of his loyalty to Government, as a perusal of the Life of Lord Hardinge will show. The application by the *Baluchistan Gazette* of the epithet "usurper" to the Maharaja is not, therefore, justifiable. Of course, if those who stand by, and are loyal to Government can be called "usurpers," then Gulab Singh was undoubtedly one. The paper in question further remarks that if a plebiscite were taken on the subject both the Muhammadans and Hindus of Kashmir would vote for being placed under British rule. There can be no doubt that that rule being a model one everybody would like to live under it. This can, however, never be; and the subjects of a State cannot be allowed to choose under whose rule they will live. Kashmir was transferred to Maharaja Gulab Singh and his male heirs in March 1846, and it would be unjust to take it back now simply because its rulers have, after the labour of years, converted it into a fertile and beautiful land. The Editor then takes the *Baluchistan Gazette* to task for reflecting on the personal character of the present Maharaja, and praises His Highness' qualities of head and heart. In conclusion, he remarks that Government may be depended upon not to violate the treaty concluded between them and the Kashmir State. Indeed, the services rendered by the rulers of the State during the Sepoy Mutiny and on the occasion of the Chitral War were such that Government can never entertain the suggestion made by the *Baluchistan Gazette*.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Indian Muhammadans and the waging of *Jehads*.

9. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad writing to the *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 10th March 1903, dwells on the advantages conferred by British rule on Indian Muhammadans, and suggests the compilation of a book in which an endeavour should be made to prove that the Quran, the traditions and a regard for justice forbid the waging of *jehads* against the present rulers of this country. His plan is that Government should issue a notice to the effect that the *Ulemas* who share his opinion should inform a particular officer of this by the 30th June

next and compose a treatise each on the subject within a year. The Mirza promises to write one himself, and is of opinion that the book approved of by Government should be signed by all the *Ulemas* aforesaid and published in Persian, Pashtu and Arabic. At least 40,000 copies should be struck off and distributed broadcast in the country or the frontier, &c. This is more necessary as certain tribal Chiefs are said to have issued a book impressing on their followers the desirability of waging *jehads*. In case the Mirza's suggestion is adopted he undertakes to give up to Rs. 10,000 to cover the cost of printing the suggested book.

Kaisar-i-Hind Medals, Christian Missionaries, and Maulvis and Pandits.

10. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1903, publishes a communication from a correspondent in England (Mr. Aziz Ahmad), who remarks that the (Kaisar-i-Hind) gold and silver medals were conferred on certain Christian Missionaries on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar. These medals were no doubt prepared in England, but their cost came out of the pockets of the Hindus and Muhammadans of India. Has any Maulvi or Pandit ever been given a medal in his religious capacity? A year back the Government of India sent round the hat in all the countries of the world on behalf of its famine-stricken subjects. What will the Lord Mayor of London and lakhs of other persons in the world, from whom Government then received alms, think when they read of the extravagance displayed on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar.

VI.—Legislation.

A suggestion to repeal the Indian law of sedition.

11. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th February (received on the 16th March) 1903, adverting to the refusal of the Premier in Cape Colony to pass a sedition law in order to crush the unruly section of the population, remarks that the natives of India, notwithstanding their unflinching loyalty and devotion to Government, are weighed down by such a law. This is calculated not only to wound the people's susceptibilities, but also to create an impression in foreign lands that the Government of India has still to deal with a disaffected population. It is, therefore, advisable that the Indian law of sedition should be removed from the statute book without delay.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The commission and reporting of crime.

12. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1903, publishes a communication, in which the writer suggests that more effectual steps should be taken to secure that crime is fully reported. In the majority of cases no report is made to the Police to avoid the unnecessary inconvenience and expense to which complainants are otherwise subjected. The correspondent further remarks that the village headmen and watchmen are aware of everything going on in their respective villages. Likewise, the leading residents of *mohallas* in cities and towns know all taking place in their neighbourhood. These men, however, choose to give no information to the

Police, of which conduct on their part notice should be taken under Section 54 of Act I of 1882. Were they to perform their duties properly, local *badmashes* would be rendered powerless and it would become difficult for outsiders to commit crime in villages and towns.

(d)—Education.

Muhammadans and the Education Department, Punjab.

13. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections, No. 7), observes that all the posts which are shortly to be created in the Education Department, Punjab, cannot be given to new and inexperienced men As, however, they will probably be larger in number than those on the graded list, the incumbents of which latter posts have prior claims to promotion, some of the new appointments will undoubtedly be conferred upon outsiders. It is, therefore, to be hoped that the present impartial Director of Public Instruction will not overlook the claims of Muhammadans in this connection. It may be added that the Musalman element in the Department is very weak and that of the 90 posts now on the graded list only 10 are held by the Prophet's followers. Generally speaking, the number of Muhammadans in the majority of grades is wholly insufficient, while in others, *e.g.*, in that of Inspectors, they are conspicuous by their absence. Mr. Bell should, therefore, do something to put an end to this state of affairs and secure for Muhammadans their share of the appointments in his Department.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A suggestion to prevent over crowding in Intermediate and Third Class carriages.

14. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th March 1903, alleges that on the 7th idem the Intermediate and Third Class carriages in the train, which leaves Lahore for Peshawar at 3 P.M., were greatly overcrowded, and that not a few passengers in the former could only secure standing room. The Editor dwells on the importance of not seating more than the prescribed number of passengers in a railway carriage, especially during the hot weather He is of opinion that a few Railway Inspectors should be told off to look into the matter and report all irregularities to the higher authorities. They should, like Travelling Ticket Collectors, visit all carriages while a train is in motion and see that passengers are comfortable.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Government patronage of Anglo-Indian newspapers.

15. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, publishes a communication over the signature of "Anti-humbug" who says that he has learnt from a very reliable source that Government used to subscribe to 1,200 copies of the *Pioneer* and distribute the same to various institutions. The concession, which has now been distributed over several Anglo-Indian newspapers, was meant to encourage the *Pioneer* in the beginning of its career. Now, however, that paper is a successful concern and does not stand in need of pecuniary help from Govern-

ment. Again, subsidising it is tantamount to taking Rs. 5,000 a month out of the pockets of the poor *Zamindars* for the benefit of its proprietors. But this is not all. Government notices inserted in the *Pioneer* are paid for at double the rates charged to the general public, which means another unnecessary burden of Rs. 5,000 on the tax-papers. After remarking that the *Pioneer* is not the only paper thus patronised by Government, the writer alleges that if the matter were made the subject of a question in the House of Commons or the Imperial Legislative Council many startling facts would be disclosed.

A suggestion to repeal the income tax.

16. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st (received on the 11th) March 1903, publishes a communication, in which the writer states that when imposing the income tax Government gave out that the tax had been levied in order to recover the cost of the last Burma War and that it would be repealed after five years. Fourteen years have rolled by since; and although Government recouped itself for the cost of the war in the first two years, it has not so far fulfilled its promise to repeal the tax. The correspondent has, therefore, no hesitation in saying that Government has used the Burma War as a pretext for imposing a permanent tax. He would like the authorities either to repeal the impost in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation or to openly declare that it has been made permanent. Commenting on the above, the Editor asks the writer to believe in Government's good faith and hope for the best.

Grievances of native soldiers.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th March 1903, alleges that of late the duties of native soldiers have been considerably added to. These members of the Indian Army have now to undergo a much longer course of musketry and field training than was formerly the case. In other respects also they are worse off and have to work harder now than in the seventies and eighties. While on field service they have to carry 160 rounds of ammunition, a great coat and a whole day's rations, the collective weight of which comes to about 30 pounds. The pay given to them is, however, so small that they can barely support themselves and their families. The writer then quotes figures to show that in order to maintain himself in good health a soldier must spend at least Rs. 12-1-0 a month on feeding himself alone. This is, however, impossible seeing that native soldiers are paid only Rs. 9 per mensem. They are, therefore, underfed and cannot bear for long the strain their duties impose on the system. A soldier who has put in barely 10 years' service looks a veritable old man and is practically unfit for further service. Government should look into the matter and give sepoys of the Indian Army an increase of pay, due regard being had to the prevailing high prices of the necessaries of life.

The result of the last examination for the post of Naib Tahsildar.

18. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th March 1903, states that 35 Muhammadans and 29 Hindus have passed the last examination for the post of Naib Tahsildar. The event is not an inexplicable one. Government seems inclined to recruit Naib Tahsildars from amongst literate *Zamindars*; and as Muhammadan agriculturists outnumber their Hindu brethren they have, naturally come in for a larger share of appointments,

A consideration of the proportion of Hindu to Muhammadan *Zamindars* would, however, show that even the present number of Hindu candidates is larger than it should be.

Mr. Aziz Ahmad on Delhi, past and present.

19. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, publishes the following communication from Mr. Aziz Ahmad :—

"Sleep on, you people of Delhi! You are welcome to this sleep of forgetfulness! Nadir Shah took away the Peacock Throne and the *Koh-i-Nur*. The latter was in Afghanistan for some time and then fell into the hands of Maharaja Ranjit Singh. Subsequently it was handed over to the late Queen-Empress by the deceased Maharaja Dalip Singh. The Peacock Throne is certain to be carried to St. Petersburg one day. As for the *Koh-i-Nur*, no one can wrest it from us. * * * O! Delhi, the day is not distant when the King-Emperor will make thee his capital instead of London. Thou hast seen great Rajas, Maharajas and their heirs. Well, now offer up a prayer for peace to the soul of Akbar."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—27-3-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 28th March 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the Kabuli ram is seen standing on the back of the Russian bear and the English lion. The letter-press runs as follows:—"The Kabuli ram is very sagacious. It makes two stalwarts support its weight."

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th and 23rd March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	14,009	1	11
1. Small subscriptions	17	9	0
Total ...	*14,026	10	11

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 13th March 1903 ...	358	6	0
1. Through Hafiz Saifulla, Tahsildar, Las Baila	180	0	0
2. Small subscriptions	50	6	0
Total ...	588	12	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,654	1	4

* Of this Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The proposed Habibiya College, Kabul.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1903, announces that the Amir has sanctioned the employment of 5 graduates and 2 undergraduates whom Sufi Ghulam Mohai-ud-din, the travelling agent of the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, recommended to His Highness for appointment to the various posts of professors and teachers in the proposed Habibiya College (*vide* paragraph 4 of Selections No. 47 of 1902). These gentlemen have been ordered to proceed to Kabul at once, arrangements for their journey from Peshawar to Kabul having been made by the Afghan Government. It has also been decided that they will be granted privilege leave for two months every year and that their travelling expenses from Kabul to Peshawar will be paid by the State. The Editor then goes on to say that several years ago he published an article requesting the late Amir to follow the example of Japan in introducing Western education in his country and sending Afghan youths to Europe and America to acquire knowledge. He is much gratified to see that a part of his suggestion has been carried into effect, and he has no doubt that it will be a happy day for Afghanistan when she begins sending her sons to Europe and America to receive Western education.

III.—Native States.

A suggestion to grant independence to Kashmir.

5. A Chiniot correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1903, remarks that of late rumours, good and bad, have been circulating about the Maharaja of Kashmir. How good it would be if Lord Curzon were to give back (*sic.*) Kashmir to His Highness and by setting up that State against Afghanistan were to discomfit Russia! Such a step would make Afghanistan writhe in secret, for an accession of strength to Kashmir would be tantamount to weakening the country of the Afghans. Besides, this would enable Kashmir to completely break down the power of Russia without Government having to trouble itself about the matter. It is, therefore, advisable that the Happey Valley should be converted into an independent kingdom. Long live the Maharaja and the King-Emperor!

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Indian fatalism.

6. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1903, publishes a cartoon in which is seen a lady standing upright and labelled "The fate of the English". Another with dishevelled hair and a woe-begone countenance is disclosed crouching on the ground near the former and labelled "The fate of the Indians." The letter-press runs as follows :—

The Fate of the English—"I do not merely believe in fate. I consider enterprise necessary. You only believe in fate and sit bemoaning your lot."

The Fate of the Indians—"What am I to do? My reformers have taught me nothing but this lesson. Western education, however, presages the advent of a new order of things."

Punch—"Look on this picture and on that."

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Hindu Member of the Punjab Legislative Council.

7. Tahl Ram, Editor of the *Daulat-i-Hind*, writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1903, observes that the term of office of the present members of the Local Legislative Council being about to expire, it is the desire of the Hindu public that a true and really able Hindu should be nominated to succeed the Hon'ble Mr. Madan Gopal. About two years ago the last-named gentleman announced with a flourish of trumpets that he would send two Khatri youths to Japan to receive technical education. But it is to be regretted that he has not fulfilled his promise yet, nor is there any likelihood of his redeeming it at all, for he made it with the sole object of gaining notoriety. A man, therefore, who has no regard for his word can never be a fit representative of the Hindu community. Only men like Diwan Amar Nath (Governor of Jammu) and Diwan Narindra Nath, M. A., can be regarded as representative Hindus. It is, therefore, to be hoped that Government will nominate a true and well-behaved Hindu to succeed the Hon'ble Mr. Madan Gopal on the Council.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

A judicial complaint.

8. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 20th March 1903, remarks that the owner or tenant of a house in a cantonment failing to comply with the terms of a notice issued to him in accordance with the provisions of the Cantonment Code is liable to be fined up to Rs. 50. In case the fine is inflicted by a Cantonment Magistrate of the 3rd or 2nd Class the party punished can appeal to the District Magistrate. No appeal, however, lies from the order if it is passed by a Cantonment Magistrate of the 1st Class. Should a respectable man happen to be fined through a misapprehension of facts he is powerless to have the mistake set right. In case of flagrant disregard of law he can only apply to the High Court or the Chief Court for a revision of the Magistrate's order, but revision applications are almost invariably rejected. It, therefore, appears advisable that orders of Cantonment Magistrates of all classes inflicting punishments for disregard of provisions of the Cantonment Code should be made appealable, or that in the disposal of the cases in question these Magistrates should exercise the powers of only 3rd or 2nd Class Magistrates, so that the parties punished could appeal from their orders. Justice also requires that Cantonment Magistrates should be forbidden to try cases instituted under the Cantonment Code on the strength of their own reports It is to be hoped that Lord Curzon, who is shortly to leave India, will introduce the necessary reform and thereby place the residents of cantonments under a deep debt of gratitude. His Excellency should also direct that in future the Magistrates aforesaid should be selected from amongst Civilians not below the rank of 1st Grade Assistant Commissioner.

(d)—Education.

The Khalsa College, Amritsar.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer, after reporting that the Principal of the Khalsa College, Amritsar, has tendered his resignation, remarks that the Sikh nation seem to have fallen on evil days. It is sad to think that while Sikhs, the most devoted and loyal subjects of His Majesty, are suffering through the intriguing and selfish spirit of certain of their co-religionists at Amritsar and Lahore, the authorities look on uncohcerned. The correspondent would request Government to extend a helping hand to the Sikhs and take upon itself the management of the Khalsa College.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A proposal about the larger employment of Anglo-Indians and Christians in the Railway Department.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th March 1903, says that the proceedings of a Railway Conference recently held at Delhi, which have been made public by a Calcutta paper, are calculated to create a feeling of dismay throughout the country. According to the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* it was decided at this Conference that in future "poor" Anglo-Indians and Christians should be given preference for all posts in Railway Offices of which the pay exceeds Rs. 30 a month. If this is made the general rule the result will be highly disastrous (to the natives of India). The exclusion of the children of the soil from the Railway service of their own country must be regarded as showing that they are an exceedingly unlucky people. Partiality for men belonging to one's own nation and religion is natural, but there are also such things as justice and generosity.

(g)—Postal Matters.

A suggestion to remit money order commission in connection with the payment of land revenue.

11. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1903, remarks that Lala Tahl Ram, Secretary of the Zamindari Association, suggests that agriculturists should be charged no commission for remitting land revenue by Postal money orders. Should this, however, be impracticable, only nominal rates of commission should be charged to them.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

His Majesty's Coronation and the people of India.

12. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 14th March 1903, remarks that it was announced by Lord Curzon in his Darbar speech that Government had been pleased to remit three years' interest on the loans made to certain Native Chiefs from the public treasury to combat the last famine. The total amount of the interest remitted comes to Rs. 33,00,000, and Lord George Hamilton now announces that the tax-payers of India will have to make good the loss. This is a strange sort of generosity and a queer way of helping Indian Princes, who waste the larger part of their money on pleasure! The people of India are already overburdened with taxes and must now find 33 lakhs more in order that the said Princes may live in luxury. It is to be regretted that so far they have been given no concession in honour of His Majesty's Coronation.

13. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 25th March 1903, writing about the Budget Estimates for 1903-04, observes that a Government, whose income exceeds their requirements, are very fortunate indeed. It must, however, be conceded that the receipts and expenditure of the Government of India are determined chiefly by causes over which they have no control. If the rains fall in time the public treasury is full; while should they hold off or should the tribesmen happen to be unruly, Government find it difficult to make two ends meet. Nevertheless, as there have been large surpluses for four years past, Government would have been ill-advised if they had not reduced taxation, especially as Lord Curzon made a promise to this effect before the people's representatives on the 1st of January last. After remarking that the announced reduction in the salt and the income tax will be highly appreciated by the people, the Editor observes that had the announcement been made at the Coronation Darbar the importance of the assemblage would have been added to a thousandfold.

The proposed reduction in the salt and the income tax.

Panjab Government Press, Lahore—4·4·03—70.

[Confidential.]

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,100 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 "
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
5	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	2,500 copies.
6	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 "
	WEEKLY.			
7	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	400 copies.
8	Alexandra Gazette ...	Wazirabad, Gujranwala District.	Najm-ud-din ...	...
9	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 copies.
10	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	500 "
11	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 "
12	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,400 "
13	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,500 "
14	Dost i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	500 "
15	Gham Khwar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Data Kishen ...	450 "
16	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	900 "

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	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued*.			
17	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	3,280 copies.
18	Haq Pasand ...	Amritsar ...	Ram Nath ...	...
19	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Prag Narain ...	150 copies.
20	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 "
21	Khair Khah i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	300 "
22	Koh i-Nur ...	Lahore ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	100 "
23	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 "
24	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 "
25	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,000 "
26	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Ra'ab Ali Shah ...	300 "
27	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Sardar Bishen Singh ...	500 "
28	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	650 "
29	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 "
30	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Pohlo Mal ...	3,500 "
31	Panja-i-Foulad ...	Do. ...	Lala Ishar Das ...	...
32	Rafiq-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Muharram Ali, Chishti ...	400 copies.
33	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	200 "
34	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddus ...	356 "
35	Shamim i-Hind ...	Jullundur City ...	Shiv Narayan ...	175 "
36	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	650 "
37	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	250 "

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	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded*.			
38	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 copies.
39	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mumtaz Ali ...	240 "
40	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	350 "
41	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,500 "
42	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,419 "
43	Wafadar ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 "
44	Watan ...	Do. ...	Karm Bakhsh ...	2,000 "
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
45	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Mirza Khan	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
46	Mulla Jafar Zatalli ...	Lahore ...	Mulla Muhammad Bakhsh	...
47	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Do. ...	Pandit Gopi Nath ...	700 copies.
48	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 "
	MONTHLY.			
49	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	500 copies.
50	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	...
	URDU AND GURMUKHI.			
	WEEKLY.			
51	Mukhbir ...	Amritsar ...	Lakhmi Das ...	...
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
52	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 4th April 1903.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,026	10	11
1. Through Munshi Ghulam Muhammad, Kamgar, Jammu	...	60	0	0
2. Small subscriptions	...	5	0	0
Total	...	*14,091	10	11

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 20th March 1903		588	12	0
1. Small subscriptions	...	88	7	0
Total	...	677	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,065	5	4
Grand Total	...	10,742	8	4

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Misuse of a religious endowment in Tarn Taran Tahsil.

3. The *Mukhbir* (Amritsar), of the 24th March 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that Sant Ram, the Mahant in charge of a temple in the Chola Village, Tarn Taran Tahsil, Amritsar

* Of this Rs. 10,743-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople.

District, is a debauchee of the worst type and squanders on women and wine the income from the jagir attached to the temple (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 14 of 1902). It is to be regretted that the Tahsildar of Tarn Taran seems loth to take notice of the man's conduct. The Deputy Commissioner should look into the matter and have the *jagir* resumed.

An objectionable article on the *Holi*.

4. One Jagdamba Parshad, formerly Assistant Editor of the *Aryavarata*, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, alleges that the *Bangbasi* (Calcutta), of the 16th idem, has published a two-column article about the *Holi*. Not only is the tenour of the article objectionable, but such grossly obscene words have been used in many places that no educated and enlightened per son would care to read it. Had any Punjabi newspaper been guilty of the indiscretion it would undoubtedly have been prosecuted for obscene writing. As newspapers are read by persons of every age, Government ought not to overlook indecent writings published in the Press.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

Acquittal of three European soldiers charged with incendiarism.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, reports that the three European soldiers who were prosecuted in Calcutta on charges of trespassing in respectable houses and setting fire to two, have been acquitted by the Magistrate. The reason assigned by that officer for coming to this decision is as follows:—"It has undoubtedly been proved against the accused that they set fire to the house. As, however, it cannot be decided which of the three was guilty of this reprehensible conduct, they are given the benefit of the doubt and are acquitted." This is the finding of a jury composed of nine European gentlemen. But is there no one to put the following question to these worthies:—If all these three soldiers have been given the benefit of the doubt and acquitted simply because it has not been proved which particular one of them committed the offence, is it just to quarter punitive police on a whole village owing to the lawless doings of a few *budmashes*, and recover the cost of the force from the respectable and law-abiding residents of the place? It would appear that the benefit of the doubt is reserved for Europeans, and that the indemnity is exacted from poor natives only! The Editor says that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* publishes some very interesting remarks about the case under reference; and he proceeds to quote these remarks.

A complaint in connection with the acquittal of Europeans charged with murdering natives.

6. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, ironically remarks that it is very necessary that some steps should be taken to put an end to the frequent ruptu re of the spleens of poor natives. It is curious that there is no rupture of the spleen in the case of a fight between two Englishmen or natives. When, however, a native meets his death at the hands of an Englishman the accused is invariably let off and the fatal incident is attributed to the deceased's enlarged spleen. The Editor then reproduces the remarks recently published by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* on the subject, and calls upon Government to look into the matter.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting land.*

The *Zamindars*, money-lenders and Government.

7. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 22nd March 1903, states that shortly after the conquest of the Punjab by the British the local *Sahukars* induced the *Zamindars* to break new land, helping the latter with bullocks, seed, &c. The result was that the lot of the agriculturists in this Province was improved and lakhs of *bighas* of waste land were brought under cultivation. Government's income from the land revenue was also increased, while it became much easier for the authorities to collect the demand. This state of affairs prompted Government to take the *Zamindars* under its own protection and secure for itself the profits then realized by money-lenders. It did not pause to reflect that those who had lent lakhs of rupees to enable new lands to be brought under cultivation ought also to share in the profits. Nor did it take into consideration the fact that, but for their help, most of the lands now culturable would have been lying waste this day, and that the people would have found it difficult to obtain sufficient food-supply. Again, it did not become it to make an invidious distinction between the *Sahukars* and *Zamindars*, both of whom are its subjects. The Editor further remarks that without the former's help cultivation will suffer and this will be certain to entail on Government a loss of lakhs of rupees. He would, therefore, advise the authorities to restore the old relations between money-lenders and the tillers of the soil.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

The Delhi Railway Conference.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, remarks that no one could have dreamt that on the 2nd January last, when the people of India were owning allegiance to the King-Emperor at Delhi and only a day after Lord Curzon's announcement that they would soon be shown some royal favours, all the highly-placed Railway officers in the country had assembled in another part of Delhi to devise means to take the bread out of the mouths of poor natives! Yet this is what actually took place. A Railway Conference met on the day named and adopted five resolutions, the gist of which is that, as far as possible, all the appointments in the Railway Department of which the pay exceeds Rs. 21 should be given to Eurasians. The Conference being a demi-official one, the Government of India approved of the resolutions, and on the 18th February last issued a circular letter impressing on the Managers of Indian Railways the desirability of giving effect to the proposals of the Conference. It is useless to characterise these proposals as dangerous and inexpedient, for this is patent on the face of it. The Editor confesses to being puzzled at Lord Curzon's utterances. His Excellency has repeatedly declared in his speeches that he would not show partiality for any section of the population. He has also more than once returned harsh and reasonable replies to the Eurasians' prayers for undue concessions. What does he then mean by thus working secretly to throw poor natives out of employment? If the *Sanjivani's* disclosures about the Railway Conference in question are well-founded, the Hindus and Muhammadans must be regarded as an extremely unfortunate people, while the incident will constitute the most unwelcome memorial of the Delhi Darbar.

Grievances of 3rd class passengers.

9. One Muhammad Afzal Khan, of Pind Dadan Khan, writing to the same paper, complains that 3rd class passengers on the North-Western Railway are subjected to great inconvenience owing to ticket clerks at several stations not being at their posts at the appointed time. The want of latrines in 3rd class carriages is another source of inconvenience, and passengers are frequently left behind when answering the calls of nature out of trains. Again, on the occasion of big fairs 3rd class carriages are greatly overcrowded, about 20 passengers being seated in each compartment. The writer calls upon the Railway authorities to take steps to remove the aforesaid grievances. He also suggests that the price of the Time Table issued by the North-Western Railway should not exceed one anna.

Overcrowding in Railway carriages.

10. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th March 1903, suggests that Railway officials should be held responsible to see that more than the prescribed number of passengers are not seated in a carriage. The complaint has more than once been brought to the notice of the Railway Department, but nothing has yet come of it. The authorities concerned should institute enquiries into the matter and put an end to the complaint if it turns out to be well-founded.

The want of a platform and waiting room at the Begoval Station.

11. The same paper complains that, although Begoval is the most important flag-station on the Sialkot-Tavi Railway, it has not been provided with a platform. The female members of the respectable families of Ghortal who frequently take and leave the train at that station are subjected to indescribable inconvenience. If the want is not supplied by an early date, there is every likelihood of their giving up travelling in the trains, and this would seriously affect the income from the station named. Again, there is no waiting room at Begoval where passengers can obtain shelter from the sun and rain. The Railway authorities should take prompt steps to remove this defect also.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The reduction of the income and the salt tax.

12. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1903, announces that Government has reduced the salt tax by 8 annas per maund and raised the minimum assessab le income from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 per annum. These concessions have been made in hon our of the King-Emperor's Coronation, but they do not satisfy the expectations of the people. Nevertheless, Government deserves praise for reducing its revenue by £ 1,393,000 in the interests of His Majesty's native subjects.

The same.

13. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 20th March 1903, remarks that certain sections of the population, particulary Government officials, will feel highly grateful for the announced reduction of the income tax. It is, however, the reduction of the salt duty which will be felt by all classes of His Majesty's subjects in India. The general public highly appreciates the concession, and even those who make several other demands on Government are pleased at having been given something.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, states that in its issue of the 29th November last it requested Lord Curzon to remit the income tax altogether or exempt those earning less than Rs. 1,000 a year. What higher pleasure could it experience than has been afforded by the grant of its request on behalf of the people? Although a reduction of this tax cannot be a fit memorial of the King-Emperor's Coronation, still natives will long cherish it as a "Coronation-year" boon. The Editor then remarks that, although every newspaper is free to make any suggestion, it is reserved for the *Paisa Akhbar* to read aright the mind Government, and give them advice which they consider expedient to act upon.

The same.

15. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 28th March 1903, expresses satisfaction at the reduction of the salt and the income tax, and remarks that the people, especially the middle classes, should feel heartily grateful for the concession.

The same.

16. The *Dost-i-Hind* (Bhera), of the 27th, the *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 28th, and the *Choudvin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd March 1903, writing on the same subject, remark that all sections of the population are thankful to Government for the reduction.

The same.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 22nd March 1903, observes that the announcemeut has removed the sense of disappointment Lord Curzon's Darbar speech had created in the country.

The same.

18. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1903. remarks that there can be no doubt that the people of India are very grateful to Government for reducing the income and the salt tax, for this means that it is not indifferent to their welfare. Nor is the amount remitted a small one, seeing that it exceeds the total revenues of Persia, Afghanistan and Morocco put together. Nevertheless, the Editor has no hesitation in saying that Government's generosity has simply been thrown away, while an unnecessary burden has been imposed on the public treasury. He knew beforehand what direction this generosity was to take, and in the *Watan's* issue of the 19th January last advised Government not to remit or reduce either of the above taxes. His fears have, however, been realized, and Lord Curzon and his advisers have preferred convenience to popular joy. There can be no doubt that salt is consumed by every native of India, and that a reduction in its price is calculated to benefit all. But the point to be considered is, whether the price of salt has been so lowered that the concession will really be felt at all by the people. The poorest family in the country will not feel the reduction of its expenses by two annas per annum, and when the concession is not felt there can be no gratitude for it. Besides, royal favours ought to be shown to those who are most loyal, useful, patient and needy; but the *Zamindars*, who alone

answer to this description, have been left entirely in the cold. It is true that they consume salt, but they do not do so to the extent that the urban population does, for their staple food consists of *jawar* bread washed down with buttermilk. Nor can a reduction in the income tax benefit them to any appreciable extent, although the concession is certain to afford relief to about 3,00,000 persons. It was not, however, as difficult for these persons to pay from Rs. 10 to Rs. 15 a year as it is for the *Zamindars* to meet the existing Government demands. A non-agriculturist earning Rs. 599 per annum will in future have to pay no tax whatever, while a *Zamindar* owning even a *marla* of land and receiving a rent of 4 annas will have to pay 3 annas on account of land revenue, &c. Sir Edward Law remarked that the reduction of the income tax would afford relief to a large number of widows and orphans; but will he say if a widow in receipt of a pension of Rs. 500 is more deserving of pity than the *Zamindar* aforesaid? Besides, will he say how many of the widows and orphans exempted from the payment of the tax are Indian and how many of European extraction? At all events, so far as the agriculturists are concerned, the concession can benefit only three or four widows of deceased Military Officers. On the other hand, had the amount remitted been utilized for spreading education among the tillers of the soil, the moral and material advantages accruing from the expenditure would have changed the country's condition for the better. The Editor further remarks that the concessions announced have greatly disappointed the *Zamindars*, and that if Government has the least regard for the feelings of this section of the population it should re-assure them by reducing the incidence of land revenue or spending a large sum of money for their benefit. He then goes on to say that salt traders are very much exercised about the reduction of the salt tax, which means to them a loss of thousands of rupees. They had to pay a duty of Rs. 2-8-0 a maund on the salt now in stock and will have to part with that commodity at a loss of 8 annas per maund. They say that they should have been informed of the change beforehand to enable them to sell off the salt in hand, or that the extra duty realized from them should be refunded.

Grievances of native soldiers.

19. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th March 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 17 of Selections No. 11), observes that native soldiers are so inadequately paid that they cannot put by sufficient money to go to their homes every year at their own expense. They are allowed three months' furlough after 3½ years' service; and on these occasions alone are they allowed to travel at Government expense. But those of them who happen to have no money at their homes have to refrain from availing themselves of this concession even. Again, many of the sepoys recruited in the army are unmarried men, and, owing to remaining single, contract vices which render them unfit to beget children. The result of all this is that a large percentage of native soldiers remain without issue, while Government experiences great difficulty in finding recruits for the army, for it is usually the sons of men already in the service who take to the profession of arms. Again, the prolonged absence of these soldiers from their homes makes their wives swerve from the path of virtue and disgraces them in the eyes of their compeers. It may of course be objected, "Why do they not keep their wives with them?" But do the rates at which they are

paid admit of this? Besides, a contemplation of the difficulties to which the sepoys taking this step are exposed makes one's hair stand on end. The writer then suggests that every native soldier should be granted one month's leave every year, his travelling expenses being paid by Government. The sepoys should also be given an increase of pay in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—20-4 03—70

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 14.]

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 14.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 11th April 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Macedonian affairs.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1903, publishes a cartoon in which is seen a rampart labelled "Macedonia," on one side of which stands Russia, and on the other Greece, Crete, Bulgaria and Romania. The letter-press runs as follows :—

Russia.—"As soon as this impregnable rampart of Macedonia is broken down, all the provinces will become free, after which they will come under my rule. Greece, Crete, Bulgaria and Romania think with me and cry for independence".

Mr. Punch (to Greece, &c)—"You are committing a mistake and will suffer loss and discomfiture in the end. You should beware of the Sultan, who is a born diplomat. The Czar's aggressive policy is already proving harmful to you ; so you should turn over a new leaf".

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Wakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd April 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,091	10	11
Small subscriptions	...	37	4	0
Total	...	14,128	14	11*

The same.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 27th March 1903	...	677	3	0
(1) Through Muhammad Hasan Khan, Assistant, Controller-General's Office, Patiala	...	25	0	0
(2) Small subscriptions ...	...	40	12	0
Total	...	742	15	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,808	4	4

* Of this Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Politics and Indian Muhammadans.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th March 1903, remarks that political agitation is a necessary corollary of the spread of education and enlightenment. It was, therefore, natural that educated Hindus should have resorted to politics in order to safeguard their rights. The Muhammadans have now begun to feel the same want, and this has excited various comments in different quarters. The *Indian People*, a new weekly issued from Allahabad, remarks that the Musalmans have realized the mistake committed by the late Sir Sayad Ahmad Khan, and that, having awakend to a sense of their requirements, they are preparing to throw in their lot with the Congress-walas. That paper is, however, labouring under a mistake. The Editor endeavours to justify Sir Sayad's attitude towards the Congress, remarking that that movement is wholly unsuited to the national requirements of Indian Muhammadans. There can be no doubt that the Prophet's followers in the country have begun to think of safeguarding their political rights. They are perfectly justified in this, seeing that certain good men seem bent on depriving them of their just rights. But for this, and had they to do with Government alone, the Musalmans would never have thought of resorting to political agitation.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Misuse of religious endowments in the Amritsar District.

5. The *Mukhbir* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks, suggests the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the conduct of Mahants in the Amritsar District, the jagirs of those who are proved to be immoral men being resumed.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

A complaint in connection with civil and criminal deposits.

6. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 31st March 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer states that large sums of money are deposited in Government treasuries through the Courts for execution of decrees, as also on account of securities, subsistence allowance for witnesses, &c. These are not, however, returned (!) to the depositors and are credited to Government, which makes lakhs of rupees by this means. It may be added that in connection with the recovery of fines, land-revenue and taxes Government sometimes goes the length of confiscating the propery of and imprisoning those concerned. It, however, never thinks of returning moneys deposited in its treasuries by the people, which is contrary to all sense of justice and honesty. Not a few persons give up the idea of claiming small amounts, because of the inconvenience this involves and the unreasonable objections raised by Court officials. The correspondent then suggests that the sums now due by Government should, after the deduction of commission, be remitted to the depositors by postal money order, without any reference being made to the last-named. Those to whom large amounts are owing should be sent for by means of *rubakars* and paid their dues. Should,

however, Government have a mind not to part with the deposits, it should issue a general notice to that effect. But it should then remove criminal breach of trust, which is penal at present, from the list of punishable offences.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

The Delhi Railway Conference.

7. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1903, writing about the Delhi Railway Conference, remarks that at a time when the people expected to see their field of employment under Government considerably widened, the proposal to replace Natives by Eurasians in all posts in Railway offices of which the pay exceeds Rs. 20 is most inopportune. Lord Curzon has always declared that Eurasians are not entitled to special consideration as against the children of the soil; but his subordinates seem to think otherwise. In reply to a question in the Supreme Legislative Council it has been stated that Government have not yet received the report of the Conference. It remains to be seen what action is taken on receipt of the report and what steps are devised to safeguard the rights of natives.

Overcrowding in Intermediate Class carriages.

8. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th April 1903, complains that nothing has been done so far for the comfort of native gentlemen who travel Intermediate Class. Not infrequently as many as 14 or 15 passengers are seated in each compartment of an Intermediate Class carriage, which causes great inconvenience to all concerned. This is due to the Railway authorities' indifference in providing sufficient accommodation and attaching only one Intermediate carriage to a train. Government should look into the matter and direct that only the prescribed number of passengers should be seated in Intermediate Class carriages.

(g)—Postal Matters.

A grievance of runners, postmen, &c.

9. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 30th March 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that postmen and runners, who have to work extremely hard, are very inadequately paid, while the cost of their uniforms has also to be met by them. They should be given higher rates of pay and supplied with uniforms, free of cost. Again, subordinate officials of the Postal Department should be given one month's privilege leave every year and also allowed to leave work on public holidays, which is not the case at present. The correspondent further suggests that the Savings Bank Pass Book should have a new column added to it in which should be entered the name of the person to whom a depositor wishes his money to be paid in case of death. This will save the heirs of depositors the trouble of obtaining letters of administration.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The reduction of the income and the salt tax.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st April 1903, remarks that there can be no doubt that the reduction of the income tax will be appreciated by a large number of His Majesty's Indian subjects. It is, however, the lowering of salt duty which will benefit the masses, who will welcome the saving even of three or four pice a month.

11. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 24th March (received on the 6th April) 1903, writing about the reduction of the income tax, claims

The same.

that it is the cartoons published by it on the subject (*vide* paragraphs 14 and 13 of Selections Nos. 7 and 9) which have induced Lord Curzon to take the step! There is, therefore, no truth in the allegation that the Government of India take no notice of writings in the newspapers published in this country. On the contrary, they look upon the Native Press as their best supporter and are ever ready to consider the suggestions made by it. The Editor prides himself on having been the sole means of securing a reduction of the income tax, and thanks Government for having lightened the burden of tax-payers.

12. The same paper publishes a cartoon in which are seen Mr. Punch, a gentleman labelled "The Government of India", and a lady ("India") in

The same.

native costume. The letter-press is as follows:—

The Government of India.—I have fulfilled my promise.

India.—Yes, half the promise has been redeemed, but the fulfilment of the other half is awaited.

Mr. Punch.—That also will be fulfilled. For the present "take this and lay claim to that."

13. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th April 1903, remarks that a perusal of Lord Curzon's Budget speech will show that the reduction of

The same.

the income and the salt tax is only temporary, and that in case of difficulties on the frontier the original rates will be re-enforced In the first place, it is to be hoped that no occasion necessitating a reversion to these rates will arise. If, however, the fates decree otherwise, Government should, instead of cancelling the reduction, levy a tax the burden of which should fall chiefly on the well-to-do.

14. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1903, remarks that in his Budget speech the Viceroy expressed the hope that the people would feel

The same.

grateful to Government for reducing the salt duty and the income tax. When, however, the reduction is such that it will not be felt and when it is not certain to be permanent there is nothing for the people to be grateful for.

15. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1903, writing on the same subject, observes that it was generally expected that some conces-

The same.

sions would be made in favour of the *Zamindars*. But it is to be regretted that no favour has been shown to this poorest section of the population even on a memorable occasion like the King-Emperor's Coronation. The Editor then goes on to say that the Bengali agriculturist, who renders no help to Government, pays a land revenue of only 1½ annas per *bigha*. His Punjabi brother, however, whose sons lay down their lives in defence of Government, have the revenue due by them enhanced every 20th or 25th year. Besides, on these occasions they have the wolves of the Settlement Department, *viz.*, Patwaris, Girdawars, Superintendents, Tahsildars, &c., let loose on them.

It was, therefore, hoped that the authorities would try to better the lot of the Punjabi *Zamindars* by settling the land revenue permanently. As it is, in announcing concessions in honour of the Delhi Darbar the claims of $\frac{7}{10}$ths of the population have been entirely overlooked.

Munshi Aziz Ahmad on affairs Indian.

16. Munshi Aziz Ahmad writing to the *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1903, remarks as follows:—"You must have heard all about the one-day Darbar at Delhi. By God, the Viceroy is gifted with rare eloquence and great aptitude for advertising! But every one in Great Britain does not agree with His Excellency. Many here look upon the splendour of the Darbar in the light of tinsel. All is not gold that glitters. Lord Curzon was extremely wise in conferring medals on Christian Missionaries. Several meetings are certain to be held in Exeter Hall to praise His Lordship to the skies. British Missionaries and their worshippers will go into raptures over the incident. When Lord Curzon publishes his new and voluminious book about India it will command a large sale among the Missionaries * * * *. Through the exertions of Lady Curzon the *Curzon-nama* will sell well in America also. On his return to Great Britain Lord Curzon will be greeted with such a loud chorus of congratulation and praise from the British Press and clergymen as to drown the sound even of Nadir's drums. The parrots (His Lordship's critics?) may scream their loudest, but who, except God, is there to heed their cries?

"During his sojourn in London the Maharaja of Jaipur outdid even Hatam. The latter used to dispense charity to the poor, but the former has beaten all charitable people hollow by giving to rich Britain money belonging to poor India. Even the King-Emperor and His Majesty's Consort, let alone the British nobility, praised the Maharaja's liberality. May God preserve our Hindu Chiefs! I have the same love for them as for our own Muhammadan rulers: both are children of the same soil. I wish they had been scholars in my school when they were young lads: I would have served them faithfully and honestly and without charge.

"The Indian students in Edinburgh, who number about 100, seem desirous that their fellow-countrymen should give Scotch Professors a sum of £5,000 to erect a 'palace' there. * * * * It is expected that corpulent Parsis and Bengali Babus will give handsome subscriptions. We Muhammadans cannot afford to give anything even for the Hedjaz Railway, the Aligarh College, &c."

The same.

17. The same correspondent writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1903, remarks that it augurs well for Government that Englishmen are beginning to read Urdu newspapers. It is to be regretted that the present rulers of India should not know the language and thoughts of the people. Natives subscribe to Anglo-Indian newspapers, although these are rather highly priced. Were Englishmen to patronise Urdu papers they would be benefitting not only the proprietors thereof, but themselves.

The plague.

18. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1903, publishes a cartoon in which an English doctor is seen holding the ends of a rope wound round the hind legs of a bear labelled "Demon of Plague."

The letter-press runs as follows :—

"We had the Russian Bear; but there has appeared a "Plague Bear" also. It has been harassing India for the last seven years. English Doctors do their utmost to get hold of it, but it is not to be driven out of the country."

The plague in Lahore.

19. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th April 1903, says that for the last few days plague has been on the increase in Lahore. The people, however, seem averse to reporting seizures, for fear of property in the infected houses being burnt. It is to be feared that if Government does not take prompt and effective steps to stamp out the epidemic, Lahore, which is a densely populated city, will share the fate of Bombay. The Municipality should pay special attention to the sanitation of the city, not allowing the accumulation of filth and dirty water anywhere. It should also make arrangements for the destruction of rats, with a view to prevent the disease spreading further. The public should also forget the Malkowal mishap and adopt the plague measures sanctioned by Government.

All Fools' Day and the *Ahluwalia Gazette*.

20. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st April 1903, publishes a copy of a letter alleged to have been addressed to the Lieutenant-Governor by Lord Curzon. The following are the more important points in the letter—

"I wish to appoint Mr. W. Gow, Municipal Secretary, Amritsar, as my Private Secretary. A "cleaning machine" should be ordered from England for Amritsar, to relieve sweepers and water-carriers of the hardships to which they are subjected.

"The Inspector of Foods, Amritsar, should be replaced by a European Lady in order to prevent the sale of unwholesome articles of food. Babu Safdar Jang, City Inspector, should, in recognition of the good work done by him at Amritsar, be transferred to Lahore as District Inspector.

"No English Officer may enter the Golden Temple, while wearing gaiters or anything else made of leather.

"As the Raja of Kapurthala is very fond of visiting Europe, he should be allowed to reside in Paris, the management of his State being taken over by the Punjab Government.

"The Raja of Suket should be directed to abdicate in favour of his Tika, the post of special adviser to the latter being given to the editor of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*. Kanwar Pirthi Singh should be appointed Chief Minister.

"Lala Hari Chand, Wazir of Bilaspur, should be appointed to represent Native States in the British Parliament.

"The Maharaja of Kashmir should with the support of Government invade Russia and teach her a lesson.

"All Native Chiefs should be informed of the intended visit of the Prince of Wales to India, so that they may retrench expenditure in order to provide presents for His Royal Highness."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—20-4-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 18th April 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1 The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 13th April 1903, remarks that, having failed to acquire influence in Afghanistan by following an underhand policy, Russia has at last agreed that her communications to the Amir should pass through London, but that they should not be laid before Parliament. Although there is no official information that Russian officers have approached the Ruler of Kabul on the subject, yet the Russian Government may be depended on to gain its end in the long run. There is certainly no doubt that the final decision rests with His Highness, and his best policy is to prepare for war with the Russians in order to preserve peace in Afghanistan. The *Civil and Military Gazette* is of opinion that the easiest way for Habibulla Khan out of the difficulty is to cede to Government the Hazara country up to the Helmund River.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. Munshi Aziz Ahmad, writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 10th April 1903, makes the following remarks ;—

"The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* called the Hedjaz Railway the Mecca Railway, which name should commend itself to all. The enthusiasm about the Darbar having subsided, Muhammadans should do their utmost to secure the speedy completion of the sacred railway. The present opportunity is not likely to recur. Render help to-day, lest to-morrow should witness a war between Turkey and some of her enemies. Only one Muhammadan Kingdom is left in the world, but Christians seem bent on wiping it off the face of the earth. May God induce the Prophet's followers to look to their own safety! The God of Islam is a living one."

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 3rd April 1903	...	842	15	0
1. Small subscriptions ...	...	19	13	0
Total	...	862	12	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,065	5	4
GAND TOTAL	...	10,928	1	4

4. The *Wak il* (Amritsar), of the 13th April 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,128	14	11
1. Small subscriptions ...	...	47	4	0
Total	...	*14,176	2	11

(*b*)—*Home.*

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th April 1903, remarks that the people of India have the following requests to make to British electors:—

India and the British electors.

1. That both Liberal and Conservative candidates for seats in the House of Commons should be made to promise to urge Parliament to appoint a Commission to enquire into Indian questions.

2. That effect should be given to the suggestions made by Mr. Bright in 1858 regarding the giving to each Province and Presidency such measure of local self-government as may be deemed proper.

3. That Government's policy in India should be so changed as to lead to a reduction in military expenditure.

4. That the promises which have from time to time been made to the people of this country, but have not been fulfilled, should be redeemed. Some of these promises relate to land, the re-adjustment of the Home charges, the expansion of Indian trade, the repeal of the Arms Act, the reconstitution of Legislative Councils, and the larger employment of natives in the public service.

* Of this Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

6. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 15th April 1903, writing about the arrest of Colonel Yate by Afghan troops, expresses the hope that the incident will not have the result of straining the relations between Government and the Amir. Every lover of peace should pray for a speedy and amicable settlement of the matter.

The arrest of Colonel Yate.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

7. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), in its issue of the 10th April 1903, states that recently a certain person asked the Editor if there was any difference between eating beef and drinking cow's milk, a certain constituent being common to both. The Editor requests European as well as Native medical men to favour him with replies to the above question, which has not been published to irritate any class of the people. He further states that his questioner was of opinion that the consumption of cow's milk was practically the same as eating beef; and that on his enquiring if a suckling could be said to eat its mother's flesh he was replied to in the affirmative.

The consumption of beef and cow's milk.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

8. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 24th March (received on the 14th April) 1903, remarks that the Mirza's followers are daily on the increase, and that God's promise to "the Promised Messiah" to carry his name to the ends of the earth is being fulfilled. Mirza Ghulam Ahmad is already known throughout Islam, as also in Europe and America; and the day is not distant when Western nations will acknowledge him as their spiritual leader. In proof of the statement that the Mirza's name has reached far-off lands the Editor reprints from the *Sunday Circle* (an English newspaper), of the 14th February last, a note anent the open letter recently addressed by the former to a Revd. Mr. J. H. Piggot, who also claims to be the Promised Messiah, and who has in this letter been threatened with death during the lifetime of his Indian rival. The Editor also refers to the comments made by the San Francisco *Argonaut* of 1st December last, on the Mirza's letter to Dr. Douie of America, in reply to the Doctor's prophecy regarding the impending destruction of all Muhammadans and their Kingdoms. He then alleges that "the Prophet of Qadian's" name has found its way even to Egypt, and that there is a hope of an Ahmadia sect springing up in that country. In support of this he reproduces a copy of a letter from one Muhammad Habib, an Egyptian, who declares Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's claims to be true, expresses his intention of visiting Qadian, and states that one Hamid Ahmad Badvi has read several of the Mirza's books.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

VI.—Legislation.

9. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of 8th April 1903, states that a Frontier Correspondent enquires why Government does not repeal the Arms Act, although it has now over fifty (!) years' experience of Native

A suggestion to repeal the Arms Act.

character, and knows how the people have never hesitated to lay down their lives in its service. The Editor is at a loss for an answer to this question. If he speaks out the truth he will be certain to offend the authorities, while by withholding facts he will be doing violence to his own conscience. He will, therefore, content himself with remarking that Government does not as yet place full reliance on natives, and consequently considers it inexpedient to give them all their legitimate rights.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

Complaint against certain Municipal Commissioners, &c., of Amritsar.

10. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th April 1903, alleges that it has received several complaints to the effect that Sant Singh (Reader, Municipal Office) and Devi Dial (Reader, Honorary Bench) subject the people to considerable inconvenience. This is due to these men having been in their respective posts for a long time. The Editor suggests that the said officials should be made to change places with each other. He further alleges that in connection with the cattle fairs held on the occasion of the Dewali and Baisakhi, some money is made over to certain Municipal Commissioners for distribution in prizes. These worthies, however, manage to divide the money between their own men, the really deserving persons being paid nothing. The Deputy Commissioner should see that in future only honest and disinterested gentlemen are entrusted with the money.

(f)—*Railways and Communications.*

The Delhi Railway Conference.

11. The *Taj-ul Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 11th April 1903, writing about the Railway Conference held at Delhi, observes that no one could have thought that an auspicious occasion like the Coronation Darbar would be taken advantage of to deprive natives of some of their existing rights. The fact that the Conference was a hole-and-corner affair shows clearly enough that its organisers knew that its proceedings were underhand. After complaining that all higher appointments in the Railway Department are already closed to natives, and that not a single Railway in India is under the management of a native, the Editor remarks that justice demands that at least subordinate posts should be reserved for the children of the soil. He then goes on to say that natives are not only to be excluded from their posts, but will have to find money to meet the extra expenditure necessitated by the adoption of the recommendation of the Conference. It is to be hoped that Lord Curzon, who has more than once declined to show special favour to Eurasians, will not accept the recommendations.

(g)—*Postal Matters.*

Postage on native newspapers.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), dated the 13th April 1903, states that in his budget speech the Hon'ble Rai Sri Rám Bahadur suggested that postage on native newspapers weighing up to six tolas should be fixed at one

pice. In reply Sir Edward Law remarked that, as the question affected only a very small section of the people, Government could not take action on it. This reply cannot be called a satisfactory or a reasonable one. When only half an anna is charged as postage on an Anglo-Indian paper weighing up to 20 tolas, is it not unjust that the rate charged to poor native newspapers should be one pice for four tolas? It is such invidious distinctions which make the people adversely criticise Government, and compel them to believe the Bengali Journals and the Congresswalas to be in the right. Besides, the creation of these distinctions does not become a generous, just and kind Government like the British.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

13. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 11th April 1903, reprints from the *Edward Gazette* (Kasúr) the following note anent the Prince of Wales' forthcoming visit to India:—

The Prince of Wales' forthcoming visit to India.

" It would appear that the news about the fall of rain in India has found its way into the Royal Palace, for rumours regarding the Prince of Wales' visiting this country in December next have begun to be heard. The King Emperor at first took pity on poor India and postponed His Royal Highness' visit for two years. It is, therefore, inexplicable why it has now been considered necessary for the visit to be paid next December. Has Lord Curzon's declaration that a treasure of about 8¼ crores lies buried in India, had anything to do with this change of programme? If the rains are at the bottom of the decision, then it should be re membered that they have fallen after they were wanted. In case the Viceroy's declaration has induced the Prince to visit India sooner, his father's representative in the country should be held to blame if want of funds leads to his not being received and entertained in a befitting manner. * * * We must add that instead of showing His Royal Highness over their stables, Native Chief should pass before him the *rayats'* limping and lean bullocks, and that when arrayed in dazzling dresses they should let him see those of their subjects who have never worn anything but a loin-cloth, and who from cradle to grave do not know what it is to have a full meal. We are fully aware that the heir-apparent to the British Throne is thoroughly able to go to the bottom of every question, however difficult it may be. He is not one of those who do not use their eyes. On the other hand, he is the habit of closing his eyes after seeing a thing and trying to go beneath the surface. The learned speeches made by him on his return from a tour in Australia had the effect of producing a sense of uneasiness in political circles, while his utterances on commercial questions were a revelation to the public. It remains to be seen what impression poverty-stricken India produces on his mind. At all events we welcome the Prince's visit."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—27-4 03—70.

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[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 16.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 25th April 1903.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russian Government and *begar.*

1. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1903, after referring to the evils wrought by despotic rule in Russia names the reforms recently introduced by the present Czar, and remarks that one of the reforms, *viz.*, the suppression of *begar*, is urgently called for in this country, especially in Nothern India.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th April 1903, acknowledges he following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 10th April 1903 ...	...	762	12	0
1. Small subscriptions ...	...	9	0	0
Total	...	771	12	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey...	...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,837	1	4

The same.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th April 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,176	2	11
1. Small subscriptions ...	...	45	8	0
Total	...	14,221	10	11

(*b*)—*Home.*

Governmaut and the people.

4. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 10th April 1903, remarks that the British Government rules over a third of the globe, the number of its subjects in India alone being 300,000,000. Nevertheless, whenever it hears that Russia or Afghanistan has designs against this country, it is at once seized with anxiety and fear, and begins to increase its army and collect munitions of war. There must be some special reason for this. It would appear that Government does not trust its Indian subjects and that the latter are not pleased with it. Otherwise, it has no occasion to be afraid of any Power in the world, let alone Russia and Afghanistan. The Government of India has not to go out of the country for troops, while its foreign enemies must come here to fight it. Perhaps Government has an idea that the people are not pleased with it, and this is the cause of its anxiety. The Hindu *Shastras* say that a ruler in whose dominions famines prevail and the people starve and suffer from epidemic diseases, whose officials are corrupt, tyrannical and immoral and whose subjects are sinners and misbehaved, is unfit to rule over men. India is in this condition, which shows that Government neglects its duties. The people's loyalty, however, does not seem to have been shaken. Whenever Government has to fight in a foreign land they do not hesitate to lay down their lives in its service. They have never taken advantage of such wars to raise disturbances in the country. Otherwise, what are a couple of lakhs of Europeans as against three hundred millions of natives? Were the latter to throw each a pebble at the former, the Europeans would certainly be killed. But the people of India regard it as a religious duty to remain loyal to their rulers; and what can be said when it is remembered that there are twice as many well-armed native soldiers as there are Europeans. Notwithstanding such obedience on the part of the people, however, they are not trusted by the authorities and are not allowed to carry arms. On the other hand, the Afghans, who are an independent people and do not care a button for Government and whose word is nowhere believed, receive lakhs of rupees and endless military stores from Government.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Colonel Yate's arrest.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1903, commenting on the *Pioneer's* version of Colonel Yate's arrest, does not think it advisable to express an opinion on the incident. All the news so far received emanates from one party (the English) alone, and it is not known on what grounds the Afghan officer concerned has arrested the Colonel. The *Pioneer's* remarks are ill-considered and calculated to make matters worse. There can be no doubt, however, that the arrest of Colonel Yate is so unpleasant an occurrence that every peaceable native must regret it.

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th April 1903, writing on the same subject, says that the incident is one to be regretted, and that Colonel Yate does not seem to have crossed the frontier with evil intent. Nevertheless had the Afghan authorities failed to arrest him they would undoubtedly have been

neglecting a plain duty, which would have exercised an injurious effect upon the discipline of the Amir's army. Again, had a similar incident taken place in British territory the *Pioneer* would have lauded the praiseworthy perseverance displayed by the officer making the arrest. Moreover, had some Afghan Officer failed to interfere with a Russian trespassing in the Amir's territories, would not that paper have accused the former of perfidy?

The Amir's rumoured visit to India.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 20th April 1903, says that a certain English newspaper reports that the Amir leaves Kabul on the 24th instant with a view to seeing Lord Curzon at Simla. It also publishes a copy of the programme to be observed on the occasion of His Highness' visit to this country. The report, however, appears to be a canard pure and simple. Habibulla Khan, it is true, intends paying a visit to the Viceroy, but he is not likely to do so in midsummer. Besides, he is certain to bring a large number of followers and attendants with him, and it would be difficult to lodge them comfortably in a small place like Simla.

III.—Native States.

Government and Kashmir.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1903, remarks that the *Morning Post* of Delhi states that during the Maharaja of Kashmir's stay at Calcutta the Viceroy, who intends reconstituting the Frontier Province, asked His Highness to give up Kashmir in exchange for the Sialkot District. This statement derives force from Lord Curzon's declaration in his Budget speech that India's foreign relations are becoming complicated. Since the publication by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* of Lord Lansdowne's confidential correspondence relating to Kashmir, the people have been ready to credit any rumour which may be set afloat concerning the Happy Valley. The Foreign Department of the Government of India is so constituted that nothing is too improbable to expect of it.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Slaughter of plough cattle in India.

9. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 20th April 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer says that, notwithstanding improved irrigation in the country, food-grains are becoming dearer every day. The evil is due, not to droughts or want of cultivators, but to a decrease in the number of cattle, thousands of which are butchered daily for food. The slaughter of cattle has sent up the prices of plough animals, and rendered it difficult for the *zamindars* to obtain sufficient bullocks for their requirements. It has also made *ghi* and milk, which enter so largely into the people's dietary, very dear and placed the same beyond the reach of a large section of the population. Government should remedy the evil by forbidding the slaughter of plough cattle. Societies for the Protection of Animals also should look into the matter.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

10. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 22nd April 1903, has the following :—

Government and the National Congress.

A SOP TO CERBERUS.

"In appointing Mr. C. Sankran Nair to officiate as a Judge of the Madras High Court, we are afraid the Government of India has put another premium on political agitation in this country. Far be it from us to say anything personlly against Mr. Nair; for aught we know of him, he is a gentleman of some parts and will probably make a successful High Court Judge. But what can be said of a Government which while it looks askance at political agitation on one side, exalts the political agitator on the other? Only two years ago, about a week after his denouncing the Land Revenue policy of the Government as President of the Congress, a gentleman was sworn in a puisne Judge of one of His Majesty's High Courts in India. And Mr. Nair's is the third instance of an ex-President of that political body being appointed a High Court Judge; the instances of such as had taken an active and prominent part in political agitation before their elevation to the High Court Bench, being many. While this shows that the gentlemen who have been thus selected to fill that exalted office were men of undoubted abilities, it also shows that the Government which selected them had some other considerations in regard beside their merits. The event however has a plain lesson to teach to every other aspirant for a seat on the High Court Bench; be tongue-tied and you are apt to be overlooked; agitate and you are sure to get it some day. Though it appears on the face of it that the Government has some occult considerations in view, in generally selecting prominent Congressmen or for that matter Congress ex-Presidents for a vacancy on the Bench in one of our High Courts; yet the easy acceptance of the offer by these gentlemen too, is a clear commentary on their characters. If anything else it also shows that Indian 'patriotism' is only skin-deep and the Indian 'patriot', like every ordinary mortal, is apt to be hushed up when given a milk-sop. It is no wonder then, if those who are sincerely opposed to the Congress, call Indian 'patriotism' a myth and the loud talk of its leaders a cry for more loaves and fishes. Boast then of your 'patriotism' until you show that you are proof against all temptations and are prepared to make any sacrifice however great for serving your country's cause! (*sic.*) If not, it is only honest that you had ceased twitting your countrymen and their leaders for unpatriotic conduct, simply because they have refrained from joining hands with you in carrying on from year's end to year's end, a shoddy agitation, for 'some more bread'."

VII.—General Administration.

(*g*)—*Postal Matters.*

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th April 1903, says that some post offices are sorely needed in the Jhelum Colony. The want is a source of great inconvenience to the colonists in general and to Settlement officials in particular. Under the existing arrangements letters, &c., are distributed once in 8 or 10 days. The Postmaster-General should either order the establishment of some post offices in the Colony or have the extent of the beats of postmen curtailed. At present each beat comprises from 30 to 40 villages, which are not less than 20 miles distant from one another.

Want of post offices in the Jhelum Colony.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

12. The *Rafiq-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th (received on the 21st) April 1903, remarks that the reduction of the income tax has afforded relief to thousands of poor natives while the lowering of the salt duty also will benefit

The reduction of the Income and the Salt Tax.

mostly the poor. The National Congress had been agitating for these concessions for years part, and its demands in this respect also have been granted at last. This shows that the existence of the Congress has proved highly beneficial to the interests of the people, especially of the Muhammadans. And for this the Congresswallas are entitled to the thanks of their fellow countrymen.

The same.

13. The *Khair-Khawa-i-Alam* (Delhi), of the 16th April 1903, remarks that of the manifold advantages of the Dehli Darbar may be mentioned the reduction of the Income and the Salt Tax. The concession is not only far-reaching in its consequences, but also shows clearly enough that Government have realized that the burden of taxation on the people is beyond their power to bear. The Editor then suggests the following further concessions in honour of the King Emperor's Coronation :—

(1). That the Salt Tax should be abolished altogether.

(2). That loans made to Native Chiefs from the public treasury should be written off.

(3). That the Native States which have been rendered destitute by recurring famines should be enlarged in extent.

(4). That the house-tax levied at Dehli should be abolished.

(5). That the (native) press should be made free again, the former system of exchange between newspapers being resumed and the rate of postage for papers weighing up to five tolas being fixed at a pice.

The same

14. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th April 1903, states that no order regarding the reduction of the Income Tax have as yet been communicated to Collectors. The delay is likely to entail much inconvenience on all concerned. For instance, in connection with the forthcoming assessment at Sialkot it has been decided to tax even those who earn Rs 500 a year. There can be no doubt that ultimately they will be exempted from the payment of the tax ; still in the meantime they will have to burn incense at the altar of, and grease the palms of, many an official. Assessing officers also will have to waste a good deal of their valuable time in making assessments, which are certain to be abandoned at no distant date. It, therefore, behoves Government to issue the necessary orders without delay.

Medical aid to native ladies.

15. A correspondent, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1903, remarks that it has been decided that the income from the Victoria Scholarship Fund is to be spent on teaching midwifery to women. It would have been far better to utilise the money by opening medical schools for female students, for female doctors alone can afford real medical aid to *parda* women. There can be no doubt that girls also are free to attend the existing Medical Colleges ; but it is a fact that the reading together of students of both sexes in these institutions exercises an injurious effect on the

moral character of female pupils. This deters parents from sending their daughters to the said colleges, and it is for this reason that the number of girls reading in them has fallen off. Again, while dissecting bodies of females, male students behave in such an ungentlemanly manner as to give great offence to their companions of the other sex. The course adopted in connection with lectures on the genital organs is also open to objection and does not admit of boys and girls hearing the lectures together. Lady Curzon should, therefore, take the above into consideration and render her name immortal by opening a medical school for girls.

Panjab Government Press, Lahore—1-5 03—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 17.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 2nd May 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The situation in the Balkans.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th April 1903, remarks that the situation in the Balkans seems to be growing more serious every day. This has opened the eyes of the Turks and driven the Porte to the conclusion that the rebels must be taught a lesson. Accordingly a large number of Turkish troops have been placed under Reshdi Pasha, whose first task will be to rescue the members of the Sultan's peace commission from the clutches of the Albanians. On the other hand, the Russian and the Austrian Ambassadors are bringing pressure to bear on His Majesty to suppress the Albanian insurgents on pain of losing the support of the rest of Europe. The threat is, however, wholly meaningless, for, what help do the Christian Powers of Europe render Abdul Hamid even now? Does the supply of military stores by them to the residents of certain of the Balkan States constitute an act of friendship towards the Sultan? The Editor then goes on to say that all the above Powers have the same object in view. Were they really desirous of restoring peace in the States, they could easily join the Porte in setting matters right.

Russia and the Near East.

2. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 24th April 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the Czar is seen supporting on his shoulders a duck, labelled "Macedonia." Three other ducks, called "Greece," "Crete," and "Bulgaria" are also disclosed to view. The letter-press is as follows:—

"Just now Russia is bearing Macedonia on her shoulders, and Greece, Crete and Balgaria are singing the songs of the season. A reprimand from the Sultan, however, will make her dash down Macedonia and show a clean pair of heels. These ephemeral ducks (Greece, &c.,) will disappear at the same time."

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,221	10	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	13	0	0
Total	...	14,234	10	11

(*b*)—*Home.*

Government and the people.

4. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 22nd April 1903, remarks that, speaking of the reforms recently introduced by the Czar, the *Spectator* of London states that the native of India is the freest man on the face of the earth. It is to be wished that this were so. The agriculturists (and these form the largest part of the population) are not allowed to live in peace, and have the underlings of the Revenue, the Police, the Irrigation and other Departments constantly at their heels. Nevertheless, it cannot be denied that the native cultivator is immensely better off than his Russian *confrère*. It may be added that, while the Government of India would give every resident of this country as much personal liberty as possible, the Muscovite Government follows quite an opposite policy. Although subordinate officials do not allow the people to take full advantage of Government's good intentions, still the Russians, who, unlike His Majesty's native subjects, do not enjoy religious freedom and are forced to serve in the army, may well envy the lot of their fellowmen in India.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Establishment of Legislative Councils in Afghanistan.

5. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 29th April 1903, reports that the Amir has created a Legislative Council for the purpose of codifying law. The Council will be divided into an Upper and a Lower House, the former consisting of His Highness, his brothers and certain higher State dignitaries, and the latter of the nominated representatives of all sections of the Afghan population. It is also under contemplation to give each province its own Council. After expressing satisfaction at the appointment of two Indian servants of the Amir, namely, Dr. Abdul Ghani, B. A., and Maulvi Najaf Ali, to be members of the Upper House, the Editor remarks that it will undoubtedly take time for the Afghans to understand and follow the principles of representative government. Nevertheless, a beginning has been made, and if the Amir's subjects come to realize what national government and strength signify Afghanistan will become a second Japan.

Colonel Yate's arrest.

6. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 17th April 1903, writing about Colonel Yate's arrest, observes that the incident would show that the relations between Government and the Amir are not all that could be desired.

Only recently some of the cannon imported by His Highness were detained at Peshawar, and perhaps it has since been decided not to allow their removal to Kabul. The rumour is also current that the subsidy hitherto paid to the Amir has been ordered to be discontinued. All this is sufficient to raise the presumption that the relations between India and Afghanistan are no longer what they should be. And it is highly probable that incidents like the one under reference may strain these relations still further, and the two countries may have to go to war, which will be certain to lead to the loss of thousands of lives. It is, however, scarcely to be believed that Government and the Amir, who have up to this time been living like friends, will rush at each other's throats.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

7. The *Wofadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 24th April 1903, publishes a cartoon in which are seen three large-beaked birds labelled "The Hedjaz Railway," "The Aligarh One-rupee Fund," and "English Luxuries, &c.," while a small shallow dish ("India") is also disclosed to view. The letter-press runs as follows :—"The vessel is not only extremely small, but also partially filled The birds are helping themselves all the same. May God have mercy (on India)"

The calls on India's purse.

General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that it has suggested more than once that, according to the rules of the public service, Babu Abdul Aziz, the local Veterinary Assistant, should be suspended and inquiries made into his unlawful doings. It is difficult to say why his case has been shelved. It has made the public suspect that the Municipal Secretary has been bribed. The fact that the Babu once or twice visited the Secretary at his bungalow at night has had the effect of strengthening the suspicion. Although Mr. Gow is not the man to accept bribes and listen to recommendations, still his suppression of Abdul Aziz's case has raised suspicion in the public mind. The Deputy Commissioner should look into the matter without delay and try to reassure the residents of Amritsar. It may be added that the Veterinary Assistant should be relieved of the charge of the slaughter-house and replaced by some honest Municipal Commissioner, so as to put an end to certain doings which are calculated to spread sickness in the city.

Complaint against Babu Abdul Aziz, Veterinary Assistant, Amritsar.

9. The same paper alleges that the abuses which characterise the Amritsar Municipality are ascribable to the fact that all its employés are relations of the Municipal Commissioners. Whenever any of these employés is interfered with for any fault, the member to whom he is related gets the matter hushed up. In order to remedy the evil the President should follow the example of the Siálkot Municipal Committee, and pass a bye-law precluding the relations of members from employment under the Municipality, the existing staff being sent about their business.

The cause of the prevailing mismanagement in the Amritsar Municipal Committee.

Siálkot Cantonment affairs.

10. The *Siálkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that the residents of the Sialkot Cantonment are very fortunate in having a gentlemanly and kind-hearted officer like Colonel Roberts for their Cantonment Magistrate. Since he took over charge of his present appointment, the Colonel has not only put an end to all complications in connection with the (subordinate) staff, but has also made things in all directions look up. The sanitation of the cantonment is in a satisfactory condition, while arrangements for collecting the land revenue are all that could be desired and nobody is oppressed (in the realization of the demand). All complaints in connection with the assessment of the income tax have also ceased to exist, and the Colonel's judicial work is being performed in a very efficient manner. The Editor concludes by praising the officer in question for his plague administration of last year

(f)—Railways and Communication.

Railway mismanagement in connection with the last Kumbh fair.

11. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that the railway arrangements in connection with the recent Kumbh fair fell far short of expectations. As the day of the Kumbh drew near it was notified that several special trains would be run on the occasion and adequate arrangements made for the supply of food and drinking water at each station. All this, however, proved to be moonshine. On their way back from Hardwar the pilgrims were, like so many cattle, forcibly cooped up in carriages having no arrangements for ventilation and light, and were put down at any station at the sweet will of the railway officials. This, coupled with the fact that food and water were unprocurable at (most of) the stations, led to an outbreak of cholera amongst the pilgrims, who carried the epidemic to their native places. The reason of this mismanagement is that the railway authorities do not pay the least heed to the inconvenience suffered by native passengers. Otherwise it is improbable that they would have done nothing to avert the evil, knowing as they did months beforehand when the Kumbh fair was to be held. It is to be regretted that they should be unwilling to put themselves to the least trouble for the sake of the native travelling public, although the largest part of the railway revenues comes out of the latter's pockets.

The same.

12. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 25th April 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that the special trains run on the occasion consisted of goods wagons in which the pilgrims were cooped up like cattle. The trains also contained open trucks and the passengers seated in these were exposed to the sun during the day and to dew at night. This resulted in a good deal of sickness. Will not Government enquire why the pilgrims, who had paid for seats in third and second class carriages in passenger trains were shut up in goods wagons? On the occasion of the Coronation Darbar fourteen new stations were opened in the neighbourhood of Delhi for the convenience of the travelling public. Was it not the duty of the Railway Department to make some satisfactory arrangements for the pilgrims at Hardwar also? These unfortunate persons have had to undergo all this disgrace and inconveni-

ence owing merely to their being Hindus. Is it possible that the followers of Christ would have been treated in this manner on the occasion of a Christian festival? Nay, for some days during the Christmus week, fares on all railways in the country are reduced by one-half. The concession made in connection with the Kumbh, however, consisted in men and wom en being treated like sheep and in some of them being relieved from the cares of life altogether! It is the duty of Government to find out why the pilgrims were subjected to undeserved hardships, and impress on the Railway Department that they must be more careful in future. The Editor further remarks that the treatment they have meted out to the visitors to Hardwar would show that the railway authorities look upon the Hindus as a wholly inert, insignificant and helpless lot. Indeed the followers of Hinduism have fallen so low that they deserve to be treated worse than this. Had the residents of a European country been so ill-treated extreme excitement would have been the result. The Hindus, however, are devoid of all feeling.

13. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that even those who had purchased intermediate or second class tickets were made to sit in goods wagons, the floors of some of which were covered with a thick layer of coal dust. Was not this an act of tyranny and cruelty? and could not even third class carriages be provided for the pilgrims? Have European passengers ever received the treatment accorded to visitors to Hardwar on the occasion of the last Kumbh fair? It was hoped that at least under the present *régime* the pilgrims to the sacred place named would not be subjected to inconvenience. So far from this being the case, however, they have been treated in a most inconsiderate manner. Is not Government responsible for the doings of the Railway Department? and will the latter continue to behave in this high-handed way? Is it just to subject to hardship those who are a source of gain? Lord Curzon should look into the matter and take steps to prevent a repetition of the scandal.

The same.

14. The *Patiala Akhbar* (Patiala), dated the 10th (received on the 27th) April 1903, complains that the Railway officials at the Ambala Cantonment Station constantly ill-treat passengers. The Station Master should look into the matter and take steps to put an end to the complaint.

Complaint against the Railway officials of the Ambala Cantonment Station.

(g)—*Postal Matters.*

15. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that, although a delivery office has long been in existence in the Sialkot City, letters for (the neighbouring) villages are still sent to the Cantonment Post Office for transmission to their destinations. The bag containing these letters is made up at 2-30 P.M., and letters posted in the city after that hour are despatched the following day, whereas those posted in the Cantonment by 6 P.M. leave the same evening. The existing arrangements are a source of considerable inconvenience and loss to traders working in the city. The Postmaster-General should direct that instead of being sent to the Canton-

A Postal complaint.

ment office the bag containing letters for the villages in question should be handed into the postal ekka which carries mails from the Cantonment and passes the city in the evening.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

The reduction of the income tax.

16. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that by raising the minimum taxable income from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,000 a year Government has earned the gratitude of both the Natives and Europeans in India, and given fresh proof of its solicitude for the welfare of its subjects.

The same.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th April 1903, remarks that the reduction of the income tax has benefited mostly the well-to-do, while that of the salt duty is too insignificant to be felt by the people. This means that Government has done nothing to afford relief to the agriculturists, who contribute the larger share of the public revenues. Some concession of a permanent and substantial character should be made in their favour also.

Government and the plague.

18. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 25th April 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that while the plague is laying waste whole villages and towns, all that Government are doing is to ascertain through patwaris the number of seizures and deaths. After referring to the causes to which popular superstition ascribes the outbreak of the epidemic, he requests the authorities to bestir themselves to save life.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th May 1903.

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 18.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 9th May 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Australia and the employment of Indian lascars on mail steamers.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1903, remarks that there is no limit to the vanity and selfishness of the Australians. They have now asked the British Postmaster-General not to employ lascars on ships conveying mails to Australia. Although the request is, on the face of it, unreasonable, it is not unlikely to be granted, seeing how His Majesty's Indian subjects in Australia and Africa are treated. God knows what these black men have done to expose themselves to such treatment outside their country! In their own land proposals like those adopted at the Delhi Railway Conference are devised against them. Things have really come to a deplorable pass.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st and 4th May, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,234	10	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	43	8	0
Total	...	14,278	2	11*

* Of this sum, Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th April and 1st May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 17th April 1903 ...		771	12	0
Small subscriptions		59	11	3
Total ...		831	7	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...		10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL ...		10,896	12	7

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

4. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1903, reports that a Simla telegram of the 25th ultimo states that the Amir has issued orders directing the instant release of Colonel Yate. If the news is true, it furnishes incontrovertible proof of His Highness' friendship for England. The Colonel's arrest had led many persons to apprehend a war between Government and Afghanistan, but the turn the affair has taken proves that the apprehension was without foundation. Indeed, so long as Habibulla Khan and Nasrulla Khan are alive such a war can never break out.

Colonel Yate's release.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 1st May 1903, remarks that Afghanistan will continue to loom large on the world's political horizon so long as the fate of Russia and England in Asia is not decided by a decisive war. Russia's desire of establishing direct commercial relations with Kabul has had the effect of drawing the attention of statesmen in all parts of the world to the country of the Afghans. The fact that some questions, the nature of which has not transpired, are pending between the Amir and the Government of India has intensified the anxiety. It is, however, gratifying to know that all this has not created that anxiety about the safety of Afghanistan which such circumstances used to cause before the accession of Abdur Rahman. The *Times'* correspondent, who visited India on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar, has in his recent article on Afghanistan made some very sensible remarks on this point. He disapproves of the conduct of Government in detaining at Peshawar certain military stores imported by Habibulla Khan. He is of opinion that the decisive war between Russia and England for supremacy in Asia is to be fought, not in Afghanistan, but in Eastern Persia. The Editor concludes by quoting extracts from the article.

Afghanistan affairs.

III.—NATIVE STATES.

6. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 30th April 1903, remarks that the *Tribune* is of opinion that the rumours regarding the Maharaja of Kashmir being given the Sialkot District in exchange for the Happy Valley

Kashmir affairs.

may after all be true. It is, however, highly improbable that the Government of India will consent to the exchange. Should the rumour be well-founded, the Maharaja should only have the right to receive land revenue, the administration continuing to rest in the hands of Government. The residents of the Sialkot District, who have for nearly 50 years been enjoying the freedom inseparable from British rule, will not perhaps like to be placed under a Native Chief.

IV.—KINE-KILLING.

Kine slaughter in India.

7. The *Bharat Partap* (Jhajjar), for March (received on the 7th May) 1903, reproduces a lecture delivered a short time ago by one Pandit Din Dyal, condemning kine slaughter. In a note the Editor publishes a copy of a *farman*, alleged to have been issued by the Emperor Akbar, prohibiting the slaughter of kine.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The case against Peter Logan.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1903, states that recently while three Bhutia women at Darjeeling were drinking tea in their house, they were seen by a European soldier, Peter Logan by name, from the road. Blinded by lust the man rushed into the house, seized one of the women and threw the poor creature down. The other women called in a Police Constable, at sight of whom Peter got still further excited and attempted to outrage his victim. The scuffle that ensued resulted in both himself and the woman falling into an adjoining drain and the woman receiving a black eye The soldier was then arrested and taken before a Magistrate, who convicted him under Sections 448 and 353 of the Indian Penal Code and sentenced him to pay a fine of Rs. 25. The Deputy Commissioner of Darjeeling, not being satisfied with the decision and suspecting the intention of rape also on the accused's part, referred the case to the Calcutta High Court for enhancement of sentence. That Court has, however, declined to modify the decision, on the ground that the accused has been adequately punished. The Judges add that there is nothing to show that Peter attempted to commit rape on the woman, and that the affair was merely a drunken brawl. Even if it be granted that the accused had no intention to dishonour the complainant, is a fine of twenty-five rupees sufficient punishment for the serious offence of trespassing into a respectable house and insulting one of its female inmates? Besides, is it possible for a drunken *gora* to seize a woman and have a scuffle with her without being guilty of any act of indecency? At all events, the case is deserving of the attention of Lord Curzon, while its result must be pondered over by the self-respecting public.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

Complaint against the Octroi Tahsildar of Amristar.

9. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st May 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer asks whether the local Octroi Tahsildar, Mián Hikmat-ulla, is paid a handsome salary in order to

spread feelings of bigotry against the Hindus, subject the public to gross inconvenience, and tamper with Municipal registers The malpractices of the Mian have been brought to light more than once, but the authorities seem loth to move in the matter. As to the Municipal Commissioners, they never think of interfering with him, and approve of whatever he may do. The correspondent then goes on to say that in the new list of rates the Tahsildar has, contrary to precedent and in order to offend the Hindus, made mention of the slaughter of kine. The Hindu members of the Amritsar Municipality, who have displayed lamentable indifference in the matter, should bestir themselves and have the wrong repaired. The writer further alleges that the official in question is an expert in forging documents, and employs under him men from his part of the country to help him in the work.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

Natives in the Railway and Telegraph Departments.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th May 1903, says that the *Sanjivani* of Calcutta has unearthed a letter addressed by the Director-General of Telegraphs to officers subordinate to him. In this the former instructs the latter to henceforth recruit Signallers chiefly from amongst Eurasians, on the ground that the number of Native Signallers is already very large. It is strange that while Government declaims all intention of expelling natives from the Railway and Telegraph Departments to make room for Eurasians, its officers should issue circulars like the above. If this state of things continues, the day is not distant when Eurasians will hold all posts of which the pay exceeds Rs. 20. When responsible officers, who represent Government, behave like this, it is difficult to understand how the latter's wishes can be respected Again, is it just that natives, who are children of the soil and contribute the largest part of Government revenues, should be precluded from serving in the above Departments?

(g)—Postal Matters.

The pay of Branch Post Masters.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 29th April 1903, publishes a communication, in which the writer observes that having regard to the onerous and responsible work done by Branch Post Masters, they are very inadequately paid. These officials receive the miserable salary of Rs. 2-8-0 per month, out of which is deducted a sum of Re. 0-8-0 on account of the price of sealing-wax, &c, used That they cannot maintain themselves and their families on this pittance no one will for a moment deny. The Postal authorities should give the matter their serious consideration and increase the pay of Branch Post Masters.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Begar in the Punjab.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th May 1903, remarks that the British Government, which has always been opposed to the slave trade, has done nothing to suppress *begar* which is most rampant in the Punjab. Mr. Thorburn, an *ex*-Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, directed Government's attention to the evil, but to no effect. Captain Banon, a retired

Military Officer, recently represented the matter to the Punjab Government, but as his representation was a reflection on some European officers he has had to pay dearly for his independence. After giving a brief account of the case instituted against Captain Banon by Mr. Anderson and others, the Editor regrets that instead of *begar* being suppressed its opponent has been suppressed.

Meat scare in Lahore.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1903, remarks that the rumour prevalent in Lahore, that the goats slaughtered for consumption in the city are inoculated with the anti-plague serum in order to ensure the consumers of their flesh being inoculated indirectly, is wholly unfounded and extremely ridiculous. Nevertheless, the ignorant portion of the public is so convinced of its truth that the local meat-sellers complain that their sales have decreased by one-half. Most probably the rumour owes its origin to the recent practice of healthy goats intended for slaughter being stamped with a "P" (Passed) by the Municipal Doctor.

The same.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th May 1903, publishes similar remarks.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—21-5-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

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1.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. Maulvi Said-ud-din Haidar, Assistant Secretary, Hedjaz Railway Committee, Delhi, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1903, announces that the Committee, which was established on the 11th May 1902, had remitted Rs. 4,337-6-3 to Constantinople up to the 23rd ultimo. Of those from whom it has collected subscriptions the following, who have subscribed the amounts noted against their names, are entitled to receive medals :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
1.	Nawab Muhammad Abdul Wajid Ali Khan	917	7	0
2.	Hakim Ghulam Raza Khan ...	156	0	0
3.	Muhammad Fazl Ilahi ...	200	0	0
4.	Hafiz Abdul Karim, Merchant ...	100	0	0
5.	Syad Sharif Husain	100	0	0
6.	Najib Khan, son of Baland Khan ...	100	0	0
7.	Mahbub Bakhsh and Siraj-ud-din ...	100	0	0
8.	Haji Muhammad Siddiq, son of Haji Muhammad Umar	100	0	0
9.	Haji Muhammad Umar Muhammad Ishaq	100	0	0
10.	Hakim Muhammad Ahmad Khan ...	75	0	0

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,278	2	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	32	8	0
Total	...	*14,310	10	11

* Of this sum, Rs. 10,734-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 8th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 1st May 1903 ...	831	7	3
Small subscriptions	25	11	0
Total ...	857	2	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	10,92,207	7	7

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 8th May 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 5 of Selections No. 18), states that a few weeks back the *Civil and Military Gazette* observed that so long as the Amir does not allow the location of a British garrison in the Hazara country, it will perhaps be impossible to check a Russian advance towards Afghanistan. This suggestion is not only a queer but a surprising one. Hitherto the utmost that statesmen ventured to do was to express the wish that the Amir would employ British officers to train his soldiers and allow the Government of India to construct a railway to his dominions in order to facilitate the despatch of Indian soldiers to help him in time of need. Apparently there is nothing unreasonable about these requests, and the late ruler of Kabul held this view. He, however, resolutely declined to entertain them, for he was convinced that this would have the effect of inflaming the Afghans. Besides, he knew that with howsoever friendly professions European Powers may enter a neighbouring country, they invariably end by taking possession of it. The *Civil and Military Gazette's* suggestion regarding the quartering of British troops in the very heart of Afghanistan is, therefore, surprising and ludicrous. The *Times*, however, spares the *Watan* the trouble of exposing the absurdity of the suggestion, and shows how Afghanistan should be allowed to arrange for its own defence. After quoting an extract in support of this, the Editor reprints portions of the *Times* article anent Russian doings in Kabul and Government's vacillating Afghan policy.

Afghanistan affairs.

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1903, states that a Calcutta newspaper reports that Colonel Yate was asked to submit a detailed report of his experiences during his captivity. He, however, considers it inexpedient to commit his experiences to writing and has obtained permission to proceed to Simla to make a verbal report. The *Indian Mirror* warns Government against placing implicit confidence in the Colonel's statements, for it is possible that his indignation at his arrest may prompt him to indulge in talk calculated to inflame Government against the Amir. After publishing the substance of the *Mirror's* remarks the Editor advises the Viceroy to abstain from forming a definite opinion in the matter before the receipt of an explanation from Kabul. If the explanation is satisfactory no further action seems called for.

Colonel Yate's arrest.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Kine-slaughter and the dearth of plough-cattle in India.

6. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 11th May 1903, publishes a communication from a Resaldar Shahra Khan, who endeavours to prove that the dearth of plough-cattle in India is due not to their being slaughtered for food (*vide* paragraph 9 of Selections No. 16), but to the scarcity of fodder. Forests and pastures, where the zamindars used to graze cattle formerly, have all been declared Government property and closed to grazing. Again, land revenue is assessed so indiscriminately and at such high rates that it swallows up the entire produce, and leaves nothing wherewith an agriculturist can maintain even one cow or buffalo in addition to the bullocks absolutely necessary for carrying on cultivation. The correspondent adds that the dearth of horses is also ascribable to the same cause.

VII.—General Administration.

(*c*).—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

Amritsar Municipal affairs.

7. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th May 1903, remarks that it has more than once pointed out that Doctor Pohlu Ram, the present Inspector of Foods, Amritsar, is too old to satisfactorily perform his duties. The only result of this has been that the Doctor has been placed in charge of the slaughter-house in addition to his legitimate work ! This means that the inspection of foods will henceforth be neglected still more and shop-keepers will have everything their own way. The present being the sickly season, the Deputy Commissioner should lose no time in putting an end to the state of affairs complained of. The Editor further remarks that since the setting in of the hot weather the sanitation of Amritsar has been grossly neglected. The drains in some lanes are never flushed, while sufficient care is not exercised in the removal of rubbish and filth. As this is calculated to spread sickness in the city, the Municipal Secretary should stir up the local conservancy staff. The Darogha should be directed not to content himself with visiting a street or two in the morning. He should not fear the heat so much, and should inspect all the bazars and lanes twice a day, morning and evening.

(*d*).—*Education.*

The recent Educaticnal Conference.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1903, remarks that at the recent Educational Conference Rai Bahadur Pyari Lal, a retired Inspector of Schools, drew the attention of the educational authorities to an extremely important point. He showed how Middle and Entrance passed boys could not write even two lines of correct Urdu, and asked the Education Department to remedy the evil. The Rai Bahadur ascribed the existing state of affairs to the absence of satisfactory arrangements for teaching the Urdu language to the students of upper classes. With a view to removing the defect, the Conference, at his instance, adopted a resolution substituting Urdu for Persian, or Arabic or Sanskrit in the High Department. Unfortunately, however, instead of the word "Urdu" the term "Vernacular" was inserted

in the resolution, and the opponents of Urdu did not fail to take advantage of this. The following day they began to say that "Vernacular" included Punjabi and Hindi also, seeing that Urdu was not spoken throughout the Punjab. It is unfair to endeavour to injure the existing literature of the Province by misinterpreting the resolution, which referred exclusively to Urdu. Gurmukhi (Punjabi) has no literature worthy the name, while, excluding a few private students, hardly one per cent. of the boys reading in public schools take up Hindi. Besides, if some of the Punjabi students study Urdu, and others Hindi or Gurmukhi, the literary progress of the Province will be arrested for ever. The Editor then remarks that those who read official reports even in a cursory manner will be at a loss to understand how "Vernacular" can mean any other language than Urdu. He adds that on page 8 of the Introduction to the Punjab Administration Report for 1901 Urdu is acknowledged to be "the recognized Vernacular of the Punjab."

(*g*).—*Postal Matters.*

A postal complaint.

9. The Editor of the *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), writing in the issue of the paper of the 8th May 1903, says that during his recent visit to the villages on the Sharakpur portion of the Chenab Canal he experienced great difficulty in connection with the despatch and receipt of letters. The mails are received in, and despatched from, the said villages only once in 8 or 10 days, which is a source of considerable inconvenience to the colonists. The Postal authorities should look into the matter and establish as many post offices in the *ilaqa* named as practicable.

The Bhangala Post Office in Hoshiarpur District.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th May 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer suggests that letters, &c., from Bhangala, Hoshiarpur District, should be despatched at 10 A.M. so as to reach Mukerian at 11, and be included in the mails sent to Gurdaspur at about that hour. The mail bag *for* Bhangala should leave Mukerian at 2 P.M. or half an hour earlier, so as to admit of letters, &c., received *viâ* Gurdaspur which under the present arrangements are detained at Mukerian for 22 hours, being included in it. The correspondent further remarks that the Bhangala Post Office yields an income of not less than Rs. 40 per month and that this entitles it to be converted into a sub-office. Were this done Bhangala would have direct communication with Gurdaspur, which would put an end to the existing complaint, without making it necessary to adopt the above suggestion.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Meat scare in Lahore.

11. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1903, remarks that the rumour regarding certain worms being found in the meat sold in Lahore seems to have been invented solely to secure the discontinuance of the recent practice of stamping with a "P" goats and sheep fit for slaughter, and thereby enable the local meat-sellers to sell flesh good, bad and indifferent. If this is really the case the present condition of native society is deplorable indeed.

On the other hand, several sensible persons, who cannot be suspected of inventing rumours like the above, depose to having seen the worms with their own eyes. And when, in conjunction with this, the fact is taken into consideration that a decrease in the consumption of flesh has brought about an abatement of the plague in the city, the rumour does not appear to be without foundation. It is possible that plague bacillii, which derive sustenance from the flesh, have been engendered in goats and sheep. But, in that case, the animals named would have been the first to be attacked with the epidemic. They themselves, however, are perhaps plague-proof, but the consumption of the flesh can communicate the disease to the consumers. At all events, the matter is such that it deserves being investigated by medical men.

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[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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Received up to 23rd May 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa, &c.

1. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th May 1903, says that of late newspapers have been complaining of the harsh treatment accorded to natives in South Africa and Australia, and even in Great Britain. When the people hear or read of this they content themselves with merely saying that in these days they are treated worse than dogs and that the British being the ruling race can do with poor natives whatever they like. They, however, seem to forget that they are a worthless lot and deserve even worse treatment than is meted out to them outside India. When they have no thought for their own and their country's honour, why should foreigners have greater regard for them ? Nay, why should not the latter keep their countries clear of the residents of a shameless land like India. If natives feel ashamed or dislike their treatment in South Africa, &c., they should not grumble at, but should learn a lesson from, this. They should learn to respect themselves before expecting others to have regard for their feelings. They should imitate those who ill-treat them and prevent their country's wealth from going into the pockets of foreigners. Just as foreigners throw obstacles in the way of importation of Indian-made articles, the natives should despise trading with foreign countries. They should encourage their own arts and industries, and use articles manufactured in their own country alone. Were they to abstain from using foreign-made cloth at once, this would make all foreign nations eat the humble pie.

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th April (received on the 22nd May) 1903, remarks that while the Boer War was in progress Lord Salisbury declared from his place in Parliament that one of the reasons requiring the extinction of Boer rule in South Africa was that under that *régime* the subjects of all States did not receive equal treatment. Now, however, that the Union Jack flies over the whole of the said part of the Dark Continent the lot of Indian immigrants there is going from bad to worse. During the Boer rule natives were free to emigrate to the Transvaal and engage in trade or labour. But since the termination of the war, during which they risked their very lives to render help to the British, it has become still more difficult for them to

safeguard their just rights. The Natal Legislative Council has passed a law imposing a poll tax on their children, while it is being compelled to altogether forbid the immigration of natives into that part of Africa. A similar proposal is under contemplation in regard to the Transvaal, and the immigrants already there are about to be required to live in "locations" outside the towns. The Editor then goes on to say that the *Civil and Military Gazette* sides with the Colonists, and says that the permission to the people of India to trade in South Africa injures "white" petty traders. It is a matter for regret that natives should be prevented from earning an honest living in South Africa, which, to a certain extent, was colonized with their help. Is this just? Are not they also subjects of the British Government? Nay, England's present greatness is ascribable solely to her possession of India; and were she to lose this country she would be reduced to the position of a third-class power. Is it not then necessary for her to treat natives in a just and sympathetic manner? Her Colonies are very good ornamental figureheads, but she derives no pecuniary benefit from them.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The same paper of the 16th May 1903 says that the construction of the Baghdad Railway is calculated to introduce important changes not only in the political, but in the commercial relations between Asia and Europe. Russia has from the very outset maintained a hostile attitude towards the project, which she considers prejudicial to her interests in the east. At first Great Britain also evinced no great interest in the proposed Railway, as the concession to construct it had been obtained by a rival Power, namely, Germany. Now, however, she seems to have awakened to the necessity for British Capital to participate in the construction of the line, for otherwise her influence in the Persian Gulf will decrease considerably. Besides, the Railway in question will be the shortest route for mails between Europe and India.

The same.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th and 18th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	14,310	10	11
1. Small subscriptions ...	...	30	0	0
2. Munshi Karim Bakhsh, Contractor, Jagadhri, Ambala District	...	100	0	0
Total	...	14,440	10	11

The same.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 8th May 1903	...	857	2	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	58	12	0
Total	...	915	14	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,065	5	4
GRAND TOTAL	...	10,981	3	7

6. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th May 1903, remarks that the present requirements and circumstances of the country demand that all classes of natives should be given the privilege of Volunteering. The April number of the *Empire Review* contains a trenchant article on the subject from the pen of General Collins, who also advises Government how to induce the people to enlist as Volunteers. Of the 30,000 or 32,000 Volunteers in India the majority already consist of Hindu and Muhammadan converts to Christianity or their descendants. The time, however, has come when all distinctions of caste and creed should be abolished and Hindus and Muhammadans allowed to enlist openly. The beginning should be made with *Raises* and leaders of the people, who should also have power to enlist from amongst their followers and friends whomsoever they choose. Were the above suggestion carried into effect, natives would allow no foreign enemy to set foot on Indian soil.

Natives and Volunteering.

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

7. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th May 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the Muhammadans are seen thanking Lord Curzon for sanctioning Rs. 1,00,000 to be spent on repairing ancient mosques and other Mussalman places of worship.

Preservation of ancient mosques, &c.

VII.—General Administration.

(*c*).—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th May 1903, alleges that barely half the money set apart for the sanitation of Amritsar is spent for that purpose, the rest being appropriated and divided. It is the general talk that small boys have been engaged to sweep lanes, and that they are paid at the rate of Re. 1 to Rs. 1-8-0 a month. When pay is disbursed certain men are made to present themselves in place of these urchins and receive pay at the full rate sanctioned. The balance left after paying the boys is divided among the said men and Daroghas and Jemadars, it being no body's business apparently to look to this. The result is that the lanes of the city are never clean. This deserves the prompt attention of the Municipal Secretary. It remains to be seen whether Mr. Wood, who is officiating for Mr. Nicoll, will attend to the complaints, or whether he himself claims a share of the booty.

The sanitation of Amritsar.

(*d*).—*Education.*

9. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 13th May 1903, remarks that the Director of Public Instruction should consider whether those teachers in Municipal or District Board Schools in the Punjab who are over sixty and have put in 40 or 42 years' service are fit to perform their duties and should not be retired. It is necessary that he should fix a limit of age on attaining which every teacher must retire as a matter of course. He should obtain from District Inspectors of Schools a statement showing the age and

Age limit for teachers in Board Schools.

the period of service of teachers employed in Board Schools. On receipt of this the Director should retire those of them who are very old and unfit to do their work.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Meat scare in Lahore.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 14th May 1903, remarks that the local meat-sellers' strike is a protest against the Health Officer's orders regarding the stamping of wholesome meat with a "P." Formerly they were in the habit of slaughtering goats unfit for consumption, and the discontinuance of the practice has led to their closing their shops. It would appear that the detection of maggots in the meat was also a clever piece of business on their part. They might have sold rotten meat, which contains worms as a matter of course.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—27-5-03—70.

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th May 1903, publishes a complaint regarding the treatment of Natives of India in South Africa which concludes as follows :—"The only possible way to bring about the needed reform is that, like Europeans, Indians should develop a feeling of patriotism and nationality, and by uniting together and acquiring knowledge should compel others to respect them. At the same time constitutional and legal means of obtaining redress should not be neglected, and complaints should continue to be made to Government both in India and England."

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The same paper acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 15th May 1903	915	14	3
Small subscriptions	27	14	0
Total ...	943	12	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey	10,065	5	4
Grand Total ...	11,009	1	7

How justice is administered in Europe and Muhammadan countries.

3. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 19th May 1903, publishes a communication from one Abul Huda Muhammad Salamatulla of Azamgarh, who compares European methods of administering justice with those in vogue in Muhammadan countries, and awards the palm to the latter. European Courts of Justice are so hampered with legal technicalities that it

is far more profitable for a litigant to abandon his claims than to enforce the same by having recourse to law. Those in the Islamic Kingdoms, on the other hand, administer justice far more cheaply and expeditiously.

(*b*).—*Home.*

Government and the people.

4. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 9th May 1903, remarks that since the great war which forms the subject of the *Mahabharat* the people of India have known no peace. At first their disunion led to Muhammadans invading and conquering this country and subjecting them to many hardships. Then came the English, who spread great disquiet in the land with the object of establishing their rule. And when they came to know the country well and began to sympathise with the people a little, there arose frontier troubles, which threw a heavy burden on the public treasury. It was hoped that Lord Curzon, who, like the King-Emperor, is kindly disposed towards the people, would bring their grievances to His Majesty's notice and afford them some relief. The fates, however, seem to be angry with them, and so long as they do not unite there is no likelihood of their living in peace. The Editor then goes on to say that India, being a mine of gold to foreigners, they all covet her and have been endeavouring to gain possession of the country, which is the cause of her present troubles. It is generally seen that should a poor man happen to acquire wealth, every body tries to wrest it from him. This is exactly the case with India. The British do not wish her to fall into the hands of others, and with this object spend crores of rupees recovered from the people. Although natives know that they cannot hope to get a kinder and juster Government than the present one, and are therefore ready to lay down their very lives in its service, still it goes on increasing its expenditure in order to strengthen its hands. Russia's steady advance towards this country, which is adding to the anxieties of Government, is one of the causes of this, while her recent seizure of Manchuria and designs against Tibet are calculated to make matters still worse. Afghan frontier affairs and the proposed Hedjaz Railway are other causes of the evil complained of. In conclusion, the Editor ascribes the existing state of affairs to the laziness, disunion and ignorance of the people, and exhorts his fellow countrymen to work unitedly.

The same.

5. The same paper, of the 16th May 1903, remarks that, unlike its predecessors, the British Government has given Natives perfect freedom of action. They should take advantage of this to start various companies, and thereby benefit their country. This is the more necessary as the authorities, who look upon them as a cowardly, unprincipled and worthless lot, fit only to be made slaves of, are curtailing their rights and withholding from them the respect which is their due. Only recently it has been decided to exclude them from all posts in the Railway Department of which the pay exceeds Rs. 30, and this, in spite of the fact that they, and not Europeans or Eurasians, contribute the largest part of the Railway revenues. Their prospects of service in other departments also are becoming dark, and if they do not bestir themselves now they are certain to be reduced to the position of hewers of wood and drawers

of water. They should let Government service alone, and make themselves indispensable to the authorities by engaging in commerce and industry. The Editor then suggests that some native gentlemen should form themselves into a company and make arrangements for carrying men and goods between Lahore and Amritsar at cheaper rates than the Railway Department (!)

The Imperial Cadet Corps.

6. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Lahore), of the 18th May 1903, writing about the formation of the Imperial Cadet Corps, states that after three years' training, successful members of the Corps will be given a Lieutenant's Commission in the Army to start with. The Bill relating to the Corps has not passed into law yet, while arrangements for imparting to the Cadets the necessary military training have not been completed. It is to be hoped that before leaving India Lord Curzon will place the scheme on a firm footing, so that in course of time it may lead to the establishment of a Military College in the country. The Corps should not be allowed only to serve the purpose of a body-guard in connection with Darbars.

III.—Native States.

The Berars.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd May 1903, writing about the recent settlement of the question of the Berars, publishes the substance of an article contributed to *East and West* by a Mr. Greebell (?) on the subject. The Editor agrees with that gentleman that the entire *net* income from the Berars (which the latter estimates at Rs. 72,00,000 per annum), and not a sum of 25 lakhs, should be paid to the Nizam. The Nizam having, however, once agreed to receive the latter amount, there is no likelihood of His Highness trying to have the agreement modified. But this makes it the more incumbent on Government to deal justly by its loyal and sincere friend, the ruler of Hyderabad. Should it hesitate to do so the British Nation, whose strong sense of justice has passed into a proverb, should endeavour to have the wrong righted, and there is great likelihood of this. Mr. Digby and his friends are about to agitate on certain Indian questions, the foremost of which are the abdication of Maharaja Holkar and the Berars settlement. The Editor then refers to the legal flaws pointed out by Mr. Greebell (?) in the Berars agreement, and advises Government to have the mistakes set right. Otherwise it is to be feared that on his return to England Lord Curzon may be subjected to criticism like that levelled against Warren Hastings.

The Viceroy's coming visit to Kashmir.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1903, remarks that speculation is rife as to the object of Lord Curzon's visit to Kashmir in September next. Some are of opinion that just as His Excellency sought a personal interview with the Nizam in order to settle the question of the Berars, most probably he goes to see Maharaja Sir Partap Singh with some similar object. Nothing can, however, be said for certain.

The same.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd May 1903, also writes to the same effect.

V.—Native Societies, &c.

The Bishop of Lahore on the morality of natives.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1903, remarks that the recent report that at a Missionary meeting in London Sir William Lee-Warner, Under-Secretary of State for India, had called *all* natives dishonest and untruthful roused indigation throughout the country. Even while employed in India and eating its salt this gentleman's evil disposition prompted him to use offensive language regarding the children of the soil. Another man who thinks with Sir William has risen in India, and is no less a personage than the Bishop of Lahore. He has no hesitation in designating *all* Indians as liars, and to him the entire country appears to be peopled by hypocrites. His sole reason for coming to this conclusion is that he had once been told by some officer that a certain respectable native had given false evidence without feeling ashamed of it! Sir William Lee-Warner and Dr. Lefroy ought to have paused to enquire whether it is England or India of whose hypocrisy, sharp-practices and cruelty the entire world is complaining, and who invents "scientific" methods of committing offences. Even if it be granted that their mixing with Europeans has, to a certain extent, made natives also take to lying, it is perfectly certain that they can never outstrip the former in this respect. Again, the Bishop of Lahore should have remembered that all natives do not haunt the Courts of Law, and that the character of one individual cannot serve as an index to that of an entire community. Nevertheless the Editor is constrained to admit that middle class native gentlemen have far less regard for their word and for truth than Europeans of the same standing. He also reminds the people that so long as their words do not agree with their deeds they can never rise in the world's estimation.

The same.

11. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1903, publishes similar remarks.

The Congress.

12. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 20th May 1903, writes as follows :—

"Congress papers all over the country are discussing the inner working of that body in a manner which, if anything else (*sic.*), certainly does not show that they are satisfied with its present condition. Lately we have reproduced in our columns a very pointed criticism on Congress and Congressmen from a Calcutta weekly, the *Indian Nation*, which, though a Congress organ, unlike its other contemporaries of Bengal, often brings to bear upon its criticisms of affairs an unusual degree of sobriety and judgment. The paragraph has since then gone the round of the Indian Press and has excited a considerable amount of criticism. There appears to be a certain unanimity on the point that there is something wrong with the prominent leaders of the movement, specially those in Bengal and Bombay. Their autocratic behaviour in the Calcutta Congress had tended to cause the defection of a whole Province, the Punjab, which since then has stood in "splendid isolation" and did not send a single delegate to the Congress when it next held its last meeting at Ahmadabad. And last year too the same tendency towards autocracy has been shown by the Bombay leaders in electing their President by passing over men who had served the cause of the movement silently but none the less earnestly. This has naturally given rise to feelings among Congressmen of all sorts and conditions which are certainly far from being favourable to the success of the movement in Madras, where its next session is to take place, but where as yet there seems to be no activity displayed to the extent it should have been. We have never approved of the method hitherto pursued by this body in carrying on

an agitation for demanding political privileges, which, we have always been of opinion, under the present conditions in India is calculated to do more harm than good. But all the same when recently a new feature in the shape of Industrial Exhibition was added to its programme we expressed our sympathy with this new development, and hoped that it would be of more practical good to the country in giving an encouragement to the indigenous industries which India so sorely needs at present than all the pompous resolutions about asking representative government or holding Civil Service Examination in this country *et hoc genus omne* hitherto passed by the Congress. From this point of view it is therefore regrettable to see that the movement should cease to enlist the co-operation of those who have held fast to it so long. The situation is also a further illustration of the observation so often and so justly made against the followers of the Congress, that where talk ends and practice begins they too begin, one by one, to retrace their steps. But the truth is, an unpalatable truth no doubt, so pithily put by the poet that—

'Our little systems have their day,
'——— and cease to be.'

"The Congress too has had its day; the seat of decay is already there, personal ambition is getting the better of their patriotism in its leaders, how long it will now take for it to cease to be, is a question which alone remains to be answered."

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*).—*Judicial.*

Malpractices of the Civil Judicial *Amla*.

13. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 23rd May 1903, says that the *Pioneer* suggests the appointment of a Commission to enquire into the malpractices of the Civil Judicial *Amla*. Commenting on the suggestion an Urdu newspaper remarks that the officials named have been sucking the life-blood of the people. This is perfectly true, seeing that corruption and oppression are becoming more rampant every day. To make matters worse, the evil is not confined to subordinate officials, but in one form or another is prevalent among highly-placed officers also. The writer then states how the latter defraud shop-keeper; borrow things from or through their subordinates, respectable *zamindars* and *raises*; contract debts within their *ilaqas* without thinking of repayment; and obtain fuel, fodder, &c., *gratis*. This entails extreme hardship on the people, while so far Government has done nothing to put an end to the state of affairs described. The correspondent then goes on to say that if Government were to ask responsible officers to make secret enquiries in the course of their annual tours as to whether supplies made on the occasion of official tours are paid for, an end would be put to many of the abuses connected with the latter tours. He also remarks that the high-handedness of Tahsil officials has become intolerable, and that the sooner a stop is put to it the better will it be for the good name of Government.

(*b*).—*Miscellaneous.*

The plague.

14. The *Edward Gazette* (Kasur), of the 20th May 1903, says that the inoculation campaign has only served the purpose of filling the pockets of a few young English compounders (*sic.*) As to the efficacious character of inoculation, the inoculated are as much liable to death from plague as those who do not undergo the operation, the former undergoing pain into the bargain.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla.—6-6-03.—70.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Somaliland expedition.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th May 1903, writing about the recent disaster to Colonel Plunkett's column in Somaliland, observes that the British are accustomed to such reverses in the early stages of their wars. This is what happened at the commencement of the Soudan and the Transvaal Campaigns, but in the end Government's determination and perseverance secured the victory in both cases. As regards Somaliland, the British can wait for its subjugation for years without fear of sustaining loss, and prompt action does not seem necessary, as was the case in the Boer War. Nevertheless these early reverses assuredly weaken the prestige of Great Britain and may have the effect of emboldening her European rivals.

A suggestion to garrison certain unhealthly places in the Transvaal by native soldiers.

2. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated the 28th May 1903, says that Durban newspapers suggest that certain places in the Transvaal of which the climate is very unhealthy should be garrisoned by Indian and not British soldiers. But is Jack Sepoy made of stone? The suggestion has created great surprise in this country, and it is to be hoped that the Government of India will not listen to it. It is a strange way of requiting the services of Native soldiers that they should be sent where it is unsafe to send their British comrades.

Ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1903, writing about the ill-treatment of Indians in South Africa, observes that the outcry raised by educated natives has begun to bear fruit at last. A few days back Mr. Chamberlain declined to grant the request of the selfish Australian

Government regarding the exclusion of lascars from ships carrying mails to Australia. Speaking on the Pretoria Municipal Bill, Lord Milner has now deprecated the colonists' hostile attitude towards Asiatic traders and the ill-treatment of educated immigrants from Asia. His Lordship also remarked that the last-named were entitled not only to political rights, but to special concessions. It is highly satisfactory that the South African Government has at last thought of strengthening its foundations by following the dictates of justice and fair play. And this is as it should be ; for a Government which does not extend equal treatment to all classes of its subjects soon comes to grief.

Christian Powers and Turkey.

4. The same paper reports that the Russian Governor of Kishineff has been dismissed for having been unable to prevent a recent riot in which one hundred Jews were massacred by Christians. In other words, the dismissal of a Governor, who will probably be reinstated in a few days, has been considered sufficient punishment for the commission of the above atrocity. Had, however, the Muhammadan residents of Turkey been guilty of killing even five Christians, all the Christian Powers of Europe and the kind-hearted Missionaries would have prepared to shed rivers of blood in the Sultan's dominions.

The Hedjaz Railway.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund ;—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	14,440	10	11
Small subscriptions	24	8	0
Total ...	*14,465	2	11

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th May 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 22nd May 1903 ...	943	12	3
Small subscriptions	42	15	0
Total ...	986	11	3
Deduct amount remitted to Turkey on the 25th May	935	11	3
Balance in hand	51	0	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey up to date	11,001	0	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	11,052	0	7

* Of this sum Rs. 10,734-11-6 have already been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

England and the Colonies.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1903, writes as follows :—

"Sir Edward Barton, the Commonwealth Premier, is reported to have told an interviewer that the policy of the British Government with regard to the employment of 'coloured labour' in mail steamers cannot *in any case* effect the Commonwealth in choosing to follow its own law. Mr. Drake, the Federal Postmaster-General, declares that the greatest opposition of Mr. Chamberlain to the proposal of the Commonwealth cannot prevent that Government from prohibiting coloured labour on mail boats under the Commonwealth Post and Telegraph Act. Nay, more. If the British Government refuse to agree to this prohibition, the Commonwealth, we are told, on the expiry of the existing contract in 1905, will make its own arrangements for the conveyance of the mails from Australia to England, leaving the British Post Office to arrange for the conveyance of the mails from England to Australia. And if the Commonwealth is unable to arrange for white labour by contract, do you think it will have been conquered? Far from it. For it will, though the course is expensive, send the mails periodically by convenient white-manned steamers and pay poundage rates. At any rate, it will leave no stone unturned to keep itself in a position to defy the British Government *on every point* with regard to the employment of 'coloured labour' in mail steamers. If there can be rebellion without the clanging of swords and the booming of guns, one is raging just now against England in one of her own Colonies. But England is helpless. We know an old man who has got about him a number of spoilt children whose sole delight of existence appears to be to pluck his beard whenever an opportunity presents itself. How devoutly the old man wishes he had no earthly connection with the rascals! Yet how meekly, how helplessly, does he submit to all sorts and kinds of outrages that the rascals commit upon him in and out of season, and thus manage to keep them about him, so that he may always be in a position to remind his neighbours of the impressive fact of his having at his command a faithful little regiment of sons and grandsons."

(*b*).—*Home.*

The situation in India.

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1903, says that India is about the only country in the world which is making down-hill progress. In the first place, it is inhabited by people speaking different languages, professing different faiths and following diverse modes of life, with the result that they are always trying to get the upper hand of, and injure, one another. Secondly, the present rulers of the country are desirous that the different native communities should continue to be at loggerheads, so as to allow the former to feather their nest. Nay, they daily devise new plans to weaken the country still further, while they have extinguished indigenous arts and industries and made the people depend on foreign lands for all the necessaries of life. Again, the education they impart to the people is such that it is sapping India's vitality from day to day. In the third place, God's wrath seems to have been reserved for this unfortunate country, and for several years past famine and plague have been working havoc among the people. He has also given natives a black skin, which white men do not wish even to look at. In these circumstances, the residents of India are bound to be ruined, and there is no way in which they can rise. The Editor then exhorts the people to work unitedly for the progress of the country, or at least to give up opposing one another. Were they to advance in commerce and industry and take their education into their own hands, they would undoubtedly

see better days and secure the help of Government without asking for it. The Editor wishes to point out that his remark that Government also wishes to weaken natives should not be understood to mean that Government is their enemy. No, Government is afraid of their ignorance, and it is better that an ignorant man should remain weak, for otherwise he is always a source of danger. Were, however, the people to shake off their ignorance, Government would be certain to lend them a helping hand.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*).—*Judicial.*

The case against the *Akhbar-i-Am.*

9. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th May 1903, is sorry to learn that the appeal preferred by the Proprietor and Editor of the *Akhbar-i-Am* against the orders of the District Magistrate, Lahore, has been rejected. It is to be hoped that the punishment will have a salutary effect on the prisoners and deter them from producing in future obscene or otherwise objectionable writings. The Editor regrets that journalists, who claim to be and are called leaders of the nation, should, instead of setting a good example, have to be punished on shameful charges.

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

Mr. Robertson's report on the Indian Railways.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1903, remarks that Mr. Robertson's report on the administration of Indian Railways is a reasonable and useful document and entitles its author to the thanks of the public. That gentleman is not satisfied with the administration, and deprecates the conduct of the Railway authorities in treating the native travelling public, especially third class passengers, worse than animals. After quoting extracts on these points, the Editor gives a *resumé* of the reforms suggested in the report.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Anglo-Indian officials and information about the people.

11. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 27th May 1903, remarks that it has already been stated how Anglo-Indian officers are not in a position to gather first-hand information about the people and the country. The flattering talk of native *Raises* is the only source from which they derive their opinions. But the information gathered from this source, being based on selfish motives, can never be correct or trustworthy. Even the little they learn Anglo-Indian officers will not reveal to the higher authorities for fear of bringing themselves into discredit. And should any of them attempt to expose an abuse they are threatened with degradation or dismissal. Who does not know that Mr. Thorburn, the late Financial Commissioner of the Punjab, was compelled to resign his post for the offence of having spoken his mind on the question of *begar* and frontier affairs? Similarly, Sir Henry Cotton forfeited the Lieutenant-Governorship of Bengal, to which he was entitled, for championing the cause of the oppressed tea-plantation coolies of Assam. As for the fate of

Mr. Pennell, it is no secret that that gentleman was not only kicked out of the post of Sessions Judge, but was refused permission to practise as a Barrister in India.

Pasteur Institutes.

12. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 27th May 1903, remarks that the Viceroy's decision to open a Pasteur institute in Southern India has elicited a protest from a Major Shaw. That gentleman has addressed a letter to the Press in which he endeavours to show that the Pasteur system has led to an increase of hydrophobia, just as inoculation has resulted in a spread of the plague in India. The Editor publishes the substance of the above communication, and expresses his inability to decide between Major Shaw and Government.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 13th June 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), dated the 5th June 1903, says that the *Novoe Vremya's* remarks anent the arrest of Colonel Yate "smell of blood." Whatever inference Europeans may draw from the ravings of the Muscovites, the people of this country, who see the friendship between Great Britain and Afghanistan being cemeted daily, are not likely to pay much attention to them. The Editor observes that the *Novoe Vremya's* article aims at creating estrangement between Government and the Amir, which, however, is an impossibility.

Christian Powers and Muhammadan rule.

2. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 30th May 1903, publishes a communication from one Nihal Ahmad, who accuses Christian nations of fomenting disturbances in the Turkish dominions. He adds that they have decided to put an end to Muhammadan rule in all parts of the world and take into their own hands even the sacred places of the Prophet's followers. It is in the attainment of this object that they make mountains of molehills and create disturbances (in the Islamic world). It is to be wished that Great Britain would not lay herself open to a charge of bigotry and would give other Christian Powers clearly to understand that she could not join a conspiracy of the above scandalous character.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged		...	14,465	2	11
Small subscriptions	...	...	13	14	0
Total		...	14,479	0	11

4. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged		...	632	3	0
Small subscriptions	...	...	13	0	0
Total		...	645	3	0

(*b*).—*Home.*

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1903, writing about the reorganisation of the Chiefs' Colleges, makes the following remarks :—

The reorganisation of the Chiefs' Colleges.

"The reaction which set in in the spirit and method of the government in India soon after the rule of Ripon the Righteous has, according to the universal belief prevailing in our community, come to a head in the reign of Curzon the Clever. Among the other results of the reactionary spirit the following have emerged from the stage of nebulous ideas into accomplished facts in the present administration:—(1) The arbitrary distinction between Indians and Europeans with respect to higher service in the Education Department (as in others) was admitted hesitatingly before the present administration. Lord Curzon's Government will be ever remembered for not only unblushingly making the distinction, but taking pride (as it were) in the doctrine that natives must never aspire to higher positions which ought to be reserved for Europeans. (2) The Native Chiefs were in theory at least, treated as independent rulers in subordinate alliance with the British before Lord Curzon's time. In Lord Curzon's Government they have been proclaimed to be British subjects. (3) In accord with the original liberal spirit of rule, decentralisation was the motto. Now we are verging on autocracy in its literal sense. The change, with respect to the Chiefs Colleges illustrate the change that has come over the spirit of the Government. It is notorious that Native Princes have a rooted horror of their boys being 'anglicised.' If English education must be imparted, they (the Chiefs) would a thousand times prefer that the teachers should be Indians. Lord Curzon arranges for the education of the future Chiefs without caring a rap for this laudable sentiment, and arranges in the same despotic way as he would lay down the law for Board Schools. The unjust distinction between European and Indian Professors, as regards pay, position, prospects, in the Education Department is carried into and accentuated in the new service. From Rs. 100 to Rs. 300 would be the only remuneration a native may look forward to!"

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

6. Munshi Aziz Ahmad of Glasgow, writing to the *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th May 1903, remarks as follows :—

Munshi Aziz Ahmad's advice to the Amir.

"The disturbance in China was a great opportunity for Turkey to make herself ready (for war). The British are now busy in Somaliland and

West Africa; the Amir of Kabul should take advantage of this to make his position secure. He should not let spies enter his kingdom, and should order his officers to keep themselves in constant touch with the outposts, under the pretext of hunting. They should thoroughly scour jungles, wastes, rivers and lakes. At all events, both officers and men should be kept active. * * * * The late General Ghulam Haidar proved himself so able a commander that it is impossible even for Europeans to surpass him."

III.—Native States.

The Berars.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th May 1903, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 7 of Selections No. 21), says that it is known to all that the separation of the Berars from the Hyderabad State which has been completed by Lord Curzon was agreed to with reluctance by the Nizam. Very few, however, are aware of the description and the amount of pressure brought to bear and the intimidation to which recourse was had in order to make the Nizam and his Prime Minister, Sir Salar Jhang, consent to the step. It is difficult to say that Government formed the Hyderabad Contingent with the object of making it the means of acquiring possession of a part of the Nizam's dominions; but there can be no doubt that the end in view was not to benefit the ruler of Hyderabad alone, as is clear from an article published by the London *Statesman* in July 1880. After quoting an extract in support of this, the Editor remarks that it was known to the authorities at the very outset that in the matter of the formation of the said contingent the Nizam was not being dealt with justly. They, however, announced in clear language that Government could not consider justice where the question was one of gain to itself; and this is borne out by certain words (these are reproduced) uttered by the first Governor-General of India. The Editor then gives the substance of the *Statesman's* account of how Lord Dalhousie forced the Nizam to cede the Berars to Government for the maintenance of the contingent.

The Viceroy's coming visit to Kashmir.

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), dated the 1st June 1903, remarks that the Viceroy's coming visit to Kashmir has created an impression amongst the public that Government wishes to annex that country. It is difficult to say whether the popular conjecture is true, but this much is certain, that the visit is not merely a formal one. Although Kashmir even now enjoys only nominal independence, still its annexation would be an act of oppression, seeing that it was purchased by an ancestor of the present Maharaja and Government cannot have even a shadow of a claim to it. Besides, its annexation will have the effect of leading other Native Chiefs to think that sooner or later they are to share Sir Partab Singh's fate. If, therefore, the Government of India contemplates taking the step in question, it should reconsider the matter. It should advise the Maharaja to strengthen his position and constitute himself a formidable obstacle in the way of Russian advance towards this country. The Dogras are no whit inferior to the Afghans; and at the least hint from Government the ruler of the Happy Valley could make his State stronger than Afghanistan. At all events, it is to be hoped that the authorities will abstain from following in regard to Kashmir a policy calculated

to offend the feelings of the public in any way. The Maharajas of Kashmir have always been devotedly attached and loyal to Government, and this loyalty should not be rewarded with the annexation of the State.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*).—*Police.*

The Police Commission.

9. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th June 1903, states that the *Advocate of India* has published a forecast of the recommendations of the Police Commission. A careful perusal of it will show that the Commission have only made the recommendations such a body of men could have been expected to make. The result of the appointment of the Universities and other Commissions had already created an impression that the Police Commission also would make no proposals beneficial to the interests of the children of the soil. One of the proposals is said to be that the pay of District Superintendents should be increased, although it is difficult to say why this should be so, seeing that these officials are already adequately paid, and none of the witnesses examined expressed a contrary opinion. Another of the recommendations is that Europeans should be induced to take up the post of Inspector. It is clear from this that henceforth natives are not to be appointed even to the said post, and that the pay thereof is to be increased for the benefit of Europeans. After remarking that the various Commissions appointed by Government are so many machines for creating new appointments for Europeans, the Editor expresses the hope that before acting on the suggestions of the Police Commission, the authorities will invite the opinion of the native public and will not overlook the claims of the children of the soil.

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

Natives and the Railway service.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1903, regrets that the conspiracy which was formed at Delhi during the time of the Coronation Darbar to oust natives from the Railway service, and which His Excellency the Viceroy promised not to join, is apparently about to be translated into action. The *Mysore Standard* writes that it has been asked to announce that a large number of signallers are required in the Mysore Sub-Division, but that no one who is not a European or Eurasian need apply. Only recently the *Pioneer* tried to minimise the importance of the Delhi Railway Conference, and assure the people that there was no truth in the rumour regarding their contemplated exclusion from the Railway service. The remarks of the *Mysore Standard* would, however, show that the writings of the *Pioneer* and other Anglo-Indian newspapers are meant merely to prevent simple-minded natives from feeling the sting. In reply to a question on the subject, Lord Gorge Hamilton declared that *for the present* Government did not intend acting on the recommendations of the conference. To the well-wishers of the country the words italicised appear to be vague and omnious, while they are calculated to create a sense of uneasiness.

(*g*).—*Postal Matters.*

Postal peons and carriers.

11. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th May 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that although Postal peons and carriers are very hard worked they are paid only Rs. 7 a month, on which they find it extremely difficult to support themselves and their families. Besides, Postal Munshis, Overseers and Inspectors lord it over them, while they are punished on the most trivial complaints. The correspondent then suggests—

(1) that peons and carriers should be eligible for promotion to higher posts ;

(2) that they should be granted privilege leave for one month every year ;

(3) that the cost of the uniforms supplied to them should not be deducted from their pay ;

(4) that they should be granted a retiring pension after a service of 20 years ;

(5) that they should be paid at the rate of Rs. 10 and Rs. 12 per mensem ; and

(6) that they also should be entitled to grants of land on canals.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Urdu newspapers.

12. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th May 1903, publishes a communication from Munshi Aziz Ahmad of Glasgow, who says that, next to God, Editors should always think of the subscribers to their papers. There are very few Urdu journalists who realize their responsibilities, and it is for this reason that a well-informed ruler like Lord Curzon has not decorated them with medals. On the other hand, British Christian Missionaries know how to serve their own ends and are wise in their generation. They have brought Native Christians thoroughly under their thumb, and keep the latter in hand. Government acknowledges their skill and confers medals on them. The writer, who has vanquished many a Missionary, wonders that Lord Curzon should have overlooked his claims.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—18-6-03—70.

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 20th June 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Unification of the Turkish Empire.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th June 1903, remarks that Abdul Hamid neglects no means of ensuring the welfare of the Prophet's followers. Very few know that previous to His Majesty's accession the relations between the various sections of Muhammadans in his dominions were greatly strained. During the past 25 or 26 years, however, matters have taken a turn for the better and the Sultan's Musalman subjects have been brought much nearer together. And when the task has been fully accomplished all fear of foreign interference in the affairs of Turkey will become a thing of the past and the Porte will regain its former power.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. Syad Mumtaz Ali writing to the *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1903, remarks that it was hoped that Muhammadan women would subscribe liberally towards the Hedjaz Railway, for what work could be more meritorious than that of facilitating pilgrimage to the sacred land of the Prophet's birth ? It was even expected that those who had no cash to spare would part with a petty ornament or two, while such as could boast neither of cash nor of ornament would subscribe at least the price of a meal. Up to this time, however, not even Rs. 1,000 have reached the *Tahzib-i-Niswan's* office, the total of the subscriptions so far received being only Rs. 645-3-0. Were its female readers to take a vow to collect a pice each from their relations and acquaintances and ask the latter to do the same, a very large sum of money would be forthcoming in a short time. The Aligarh College and the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, have started a "One-Rupee" and a "Four-Anna" fund for their own benefit : cannot Musalman women open a "Pice Fund" in aid of the Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	14,479	0	11
Small subscriptions	28	12	0
Total ...	14,507	12	11

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 29th May 1903 ...	51	0	0
Small subscriptions	45	3	0
Total ...	96	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	11,094	1	7

(*b*).—*Home.*

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th June 1903, remarks that the present rulers of India follow a double policy, the "British" and the "Anglo-Indian." The supporters of the former policy would confer on natives all the rights enjoyed by Britons, almost all of whom share this view. On the other hand, those who favour the latter policy are of opinion that the people should be treated as if Government had to establish its rule in a newly-conquered country, and that the authorities should handle natives with such rigour as to make the latter regard Government with feelings of awe and fear. The "British" policy would have the rulers mix freely with the ruled and win the latter's hearts, thereby making a Russian conquest of India an utter impossibility. The adherents of the other policy, however, hold that such intercourse will be construed into a sign of weakness, *i.e.* the people will come to think that Government is so weak that it has to angle for their help. This policy was inaugurated some six years after 1857, by which time the promises made in the late Queen-Empress' Proclamation had been completely forgotten. Its constant object has been to strike terror, at whatever cost, into the people's mind so far as the present rulers of this country are concerned. Should any God-fearing man wish natives well or favour an impartial administration of justice between them and Europeans, he meets the fate of Lord Ripon or Mr. Pennel. In short, the supporters of this policy would keep the children of the soil in such a condition as to seal the lips of both the latter and their friends in England. In conclusion, the Editor takes the *Civil and Military Gazette* to task for opposing Mr. Robertson's proposals to better the lot of third class railway passengers.

Government and the people.

6. The *Edward Gazette* (Kasur), of the 10th June 1903, remarks that it has already pointed out what weight should be attached to the information regarding Indian matters obtained through Anglo-Indian Officers and flattering *Raises*. It now remains to be seen how far semi-official newspapers, which pride themselves on their knowledge of India, disclose the truth in their columns. There can be no doubt that they have sufficient acquaintance with the grievances of the people, but it is to be regretted that their sympathy with Anglo-Indians leads them invariably to look at one side of the picture only. They consider it their duty to reply to criticism of Government in the Native Press, nay, regard this as the real object of their existence. The result of this state of affairs is that the truth is altogether lost sight of. Besides, as the interests of the "pontalooned" gentry alone can appeal to the newspapers aforesaid, they not infrequently pass over very important questions relating to the unfortunate natives. As to their knowledge of Indian matters, when Mr. Tilak was being prosecuted for sedition a certain English journal gave out that he was a relation of the Hadda Mulla! The Editor then goes on to say that the case of the "harbingers of war" (the Christian Missionaries) alone remains to be considered. These gentlemen undoubtedly mix freely with the people, and are therefore acquainted with the latter's troubles. As, however, in the pursuance of the vain object which has brought them here from over the seas they go the length of insulting Indian religions and receive biting replies in return, they have come to entertain the impression that the natives, who care nothing for them (the Missionaries), cannot be loyal to Government. And on their return to England they try to deepen the prejudice already existing there against the inhabitants of this country. The tirade which the Lord Bishop of Calcutta (Dr. Weldon) delivered against natives some time back is not fit to be reproduced in this paper, which is called after the King-Emperor. The sentiments which the Bishop of Lahore recently expressed on the subject are also known to the public. The Christian Missionaries call the people hypocrites, deceivers, and so forth, and never put in a good word for the latter.

Government's sources of information about Indian matters.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th June 1903, in the course of an article under the heading "India and the General Election," makes the following remarks :—

India and the General Election.

"If a General Election will be held this year, India has a most important duty to discharge. It becomes increasingly clear day by day that those considerable grievances whose redress we have persistently tried for these many years will certainly not be removed by the permanent officials in India. These are interested in their perpetuation, and as readily might the orthodox Brahman priests be trusted to initiate far-reaching social and religious reforms as the permanent officials in India be expected to favour progressive political and sound economical reforms. They are not advocates of peace, economy and reform. Their interests lie in other directions. True; we have the Viceroy, the Governors of Bombay and Madras and a few other high placed officials who come out to India fresh from England and are generally free from the unwholesome effects of the pestilential atmosphere which alone may be breathed in a land subject for centuries to the worst and most degrading forms of priestly and political tyranny. But they labour under the initial disadvantage of being all but totally ignorant

of Indian conditions and Indian needs. Many of them may not inaptly be compared to the Colonial Secretary, who is said to have asked his Secretary to tell him where the Colonies are after appointment to that office. After landing in India new Viceroys and Governors are somewhat like women cursed to the observance of *purdah*. They may not move on terms of intimacy with the leaders of educated Indian thought and activity; they are taught to despise everything *native* for no better reason than that it does not happen to be Western. They live, move and have their being perpetually among men of their own nationality, and they do not take long to be infected by race pride, the haughtiness of a ruling caste and insular arrogance. They become members of Mutual Adulation Societies, whose sole function is to proclaim in time and out of time that India lives under the best of possible Governments in the best of possible works. They have another function in the discharge of which they are unhappily not less assiduous. They constantly harp on the utter unworthiness of *natives* for any position of trust and responsibility, and they carry their hatred of these hapless beings so far that they allow them to be rank ed among human beings only as an act of great and generous condescension. Approaching the consideration of all subjects with such an admirably judicial mind it is easy to see what form their solution of the problems may assume. * * * * The progress of time is making the control of the Secretary of State over the Government of India greater and more effective, and Simla is becoming, if it has not already become, merely the conduit-pipe of Downing Street. * * * * The Secretary of State then is the real autocrat of India. He is the Grand Moghal in whose power it is to make or mar our future. He is responsible to Parliament, but as Parliament has more or less abdicated its functions with regard to India and does not exercise the control vested in it by Statute over the actions of the Secretary of State, he finds himself an irresponsible man more or less, answerable to no power on earth for his sins of commission or omission. The chief work of Indian reformers therefore lies in seeing that as many representatives as possible will be returned to Parliament who will take an active and sympathetic interest in India, who will really be "Members for India" and not merely to serve the purposes of Sir Henry Fowler's rhetoric when he in a self-forgetful moment exclaimed that every one of the 670 members of the House of Commons is a Member for India. To achieve this end, than which to our mind a more important cannot be conceived if India is to be politically regenerated (and India *must* be politically regenerated if it is to be industrially or intellectually advanced), what is necessary is that our countrymen, the National Party, must take advantage of the General Election to represent Indian grievances, to support such candidates as will in their judgment help forward the progress of our cause and oppose unfriendly candidates."

8. The same paper, of the 20th June 1903, in another article on "India and the General Election," after condemning the present Government and describing Mr. Balfour as "only the nominal head of the party," the "real dictator" being "the new *Avatar* of Birmingham" who "fights the battles of protection with all the impetuous and indiscreet zeal of a renegade," proceeds as follows :—

The same.

"Now let us consider what is our duty on this occasion. In our last article we showed that no large and enduring reform of Indian administration, either in the political or the economic sphere, would be made by the permanent bureaucracy out here, the interested Anglo-Indian officialdom having been perfectly demoralised by the pestilential atmosphere of this slave-ridden country (*sic*). We further showed that the Government of India was merely the conduit-pipe of the Secretary of State, who was responsible only to Parliament for his actions. The House is woefully ill-informed of the real conditions and needs of India, and it is to our interest—we should say it is necessary for our very existence as a nation—that by the education of the electorate efforts should be made to get returned to Parliament as many as possible that would, emulating the noble

example of the late Mr. Caine, Mr. Roberts and others, evince a sympathetic interest in India and courageously plead for the political enfranchisement of the classes and the material amelioration of the masses. Now, the golden opportunity for this being done is a General Election. There are precedents for the course we suggest, which is that a band of Indian reformers should be sent to England before it will be too late who would, by their eloquence, their earnestness and their sincerity, so influence at least Liberal constituencies as to create in them an active ambition to make themselves of service to the voiceless, helpless suffering and starving millions of India. In 1885 Mr. Mano Mohan Ghose, Mr. Chandavarkar and Mr. Ramaswami Mudaliar went from the three major presidencies and did a deal of useful work, not the least notable portion of which work was the securing of the return of Mr. Bright, defeating Lord Randolph Churchill. * * *

"* * * This year we have candidates like Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, W. C. Bonnerjee, Sir Henry Cotton, Sir John Jardine and others whose return to Parliament is essential for the success of our cause. In 1898 Mr. Ananda Mohan Bose helped materially in the election of good Liberals and true like Lord Edmund Fitsmaurice and Alderman Richardson. What but our own apathy and utter want of regard for Indian interests prevents the Congress from deputing three leading representatives, say Babu Surendra Nath Banerjee, the Hon'ble Professor G. K. Gokhale and Mr. G. Subramania Iyer, from Bengal, Bombay and Madras respectively, to England to educate the British electorate this year into returning at the head of the poll the Indian and pro-Indian candidates in the field?"

III.—Native States.

Government and Native States.

9. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th June 1903, states that the *Madras Mail* reports that the Government of India have decided to accredit a Prime Minister and an Agent to every Native State and place the latter officials under an Agent-General. Although the sole object of Government in taking the step may be to better the administration of the States, still it is an open secret that if Indian Princes consent to the change at all, they will do so, not willingly, but from fear of, or under pressure from, Government. In other words, the departure will be regarded in the light of annexation, especially when the Princes in question are doing their utmost to introduce British methods of administration into their dominions. Again, the proposal is calculated to lower the social as well as the political status of the rulers of Feudatory States. Government should not, therefore, think of putting it into practice without fully ascertaining the sentiments of Native Chiefs and the public in regard to it.

The same.

10. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Lahore), of the 8th June 1903, writing on the same subject, observes that since the placing of Bahawalpur under the supervision of the Political Agent, Phulkian States, an impression has got about that Native States in this Province will sooner or later have an Agent to the Governor-General placed over them. The change will undoubtedly make matters easier for the Government of India, but it is not calculated to prove of much benefit to the States concerned. The Editor adds that the *Madras Mail* finds fault with the Members of the Patiala Council of Regency and remarks that they have proved utter failures. It should remember, however, that, between the different European Officers in the State, the Council is not allowed much power. Besides, its very *personnel*, consisting as it does

of the followers of three different creeds, was a guarantee of its failure. Were the administration of Patiala placed in the hands of a single individual the results would be far more satisfactory. After suggesting that the task should be entrusted to Sardar Gurmukh Singh, the Editor expresses the hope that Government will see that the contemplated change, which has caused a considerable stir in all Native States in the Punjab, is to the interests of these States.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

11. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 10th June 1903, remarks that Christ has twice felt compelled to send his substitutes into the world. Six hundred years after his death he was denounced by the Jews as an impostor, &c., while his own followers exalted him to the dignity of God to which he had never laid claim. This prompted him to request the Almighty to send a substitute of his among men, which led to the advent of Muhammad, one of whose duties was to refute the charges preferred against the founder of Christianity. Indeed, the last-named has already made a prophecy to this effect (*vide* John xvi and Luke xiv), while in a certain Tradition the Prophet is said to have referred to his affinity to the former. Christ's second representative (Mirza Ghulam Ahmad) was required during the present times, when Christians have developed the worst qualities of the Antichrist. They have manipulated their scriptures and are usurping to themselves the functions of the Almighty, *e.g.* they are trying to bring down rain at will, raise the dead, &c.

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

Complaint against Cantonment Committees.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th June 1903, remarks that if Lord Curzon were to send for copies of the recent resolutions adopted by the various Cantonment Committees in the Punjab he would come to know that house proprietors in Cantonments are being subjected to great and unnecessary expense, as also that they are being made to conform to these resolutions on pain of being proceeded against legally. The Sialkot Cantonment Committee's orders regarding the construction of enclosures round the bungalows in the local Cantonment bear out the above assertion. They are not only calculated to entail considerable expense on the owners of the said buildings, but to make invidious distinctions between these gentlemen, requiring some to make *pucca* enclosures and letting others alone. The Meean Meer Committee's orders on the same subject are of a similar nature. Again, the Mooltan Committee has, contrary to the prevailing practice, required owners of bungalows to furnish these houses with metalled roads. It is, however, a matter of satisfaction that no house proprietor has been exempted from the operation of these orders. The authorities concerned should go a step further and ask the tenants for whose convenience such roads are constructed to pay a share of the cost. The Editor then goes on to say that the provisions of the Cantonment Code should be so enforced as to give no offence to the people. Orders like the above should not be passed except on sufficient grounds and after consulting the parties to be effected thereby.

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

Natives and the Railway service.

13. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1903, says that, in spite of Lord Curzon's assurances to the contrary, the proposals of the Delhi Railway Conference regarding the more extensive employment of Eurasians in the Railway service are being carried into effect in some parts of the country. For example, the Mysore Telegraph Department recently invited applications for several posts of signaller, but only Europeans and Eurasians were asked to apply. Such things cannot be done without the consent of Government or the knowledge of the Viceroy, whose assurances aforesaid must have been hollow. Or is it that officers of Government are intentionally violating His Excellency's orders on the subject? The Editor regrets that the Secretary to the Government of India in the Public Works Department should have presided over the Conference and that the recommendations should have been forwarded to the Managers of various Railways. Indeed, but for a fear of coming into bad odour, the Railway authorities would openly adopt the above recommendation, and even now they may be depended on to show open partiality for Europeans and Eurasians. But the last-named were given preference over natives even before the meeting of the Railway Conference at Delhi. On the Rohilkhand Railway, for instance, native Guards are not only much fewer in number than the Eurasian, but are paid at lower rates.

Stations on the Delhi-Muttra Railway.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th June 1903, complains that stations on the Delhi-Muttra Railway are being located at very inappropriate places. For example, it was originally proposed to construct a station at Nizam-ud-din, and the selection was thoroughly justified, seeing that numbers of Muhammadans flock to the town throughout the year to visit the local shrines. Now, however, the proposal has been abandoned and some obscure village has been selected in place of Nizam-ud-din. The authorities concerned should look into the matter.

(*g*).—*Postal Matters.*

A grievance of Inspectors of Post Offices.

15. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 12th June 1903, remarks that while Tahsildars and their Naibs are paid daily allowance at the rate of Re. 1 per diem, Inspectors of Post Offices draw Rs. 2 a day. It will appear from this that the latter officials are considered of a higher rank than the former. Unlike Tahsildars, &c., however, while on tour they are neither supplied with tents, nor are they allowed to put up in rest-houses on the ground that only Gazetted Officers can make use of these buildings. To add to their difficulties, they have recently been forbidden even to use school buildings which have Post Offices attached to them. Where, then, should they put up, especially when visiting villages, where there are no suitable houses? The Postmaster-General should attend to the matter, and, if possible, have Inspectors made Gazetted Officers, so as to enable them to obtain accommodation in rest-houses.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

A complaint in connection with the assessment of the Income Tax.

16. The *Gulzar-a-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1903, remarks that the reduction of the Income Tax can benefit the people only if native assessing officers leave off trying to increase the receipts from the tax by unfair assessment in order win the approbation of the authorities. The complaint is rife in several districts of the Punjab that, instead of being exempted from the payment of the tax, those who used to pay Rs. 10 or Rs. 15 per annum are being forcibly assessed at Rs. 20. Only those who are highly recommended to the above officers are allowed to profit by the reduction of the tax. The Editor then praises Qazi Ghulam Rabbani, Tahsildar of Lahore, for the manner in which he is performing the work of assessment, and suggests the employment of two or three Hindi-knowing clerks to examine *bahis* and thereby save the public the inconvenience to which they are being subjected.

Transfers among Patwaris.

17. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th June 1903, says that the chief reason assigned against the transfer of Patwaris from one circle to another is that it is calculated to make the work suffer. On examination, however, the argument does not appear to hold water, for it should not be difficult for a Patwari to perform the duties of another. Besides, when the illness or death of any of these officials is not followed by the above result, there is no reason why his transfer should impede work. As it is, the stay of a Patwari or a Girdawar at one and the same place for years is attended with evil consequences not unknown to the authorities. And if the latter still abstain from rescuing the people from the clutches of Patwaris, who are the virtual Rajas of their respective circles, there is nothing to prevent them from doing so. But they will have to answer for this, if not to His Majesty the King-Emperor, at least to the King of Kings.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—27-6-03—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 25.]

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SELECTIONS
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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st (received on the 21st) June 1903, remarks that the collection of subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway by eminent Maulvis, (Government) officials and newspapers is calculated to prove injurious to both the Muhammadans and the country. The misplaced liberality which is being displayed in the matter, as also the false hope of a reward in the hereafter, is not in consonance with the teachings of the Quran.

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th June 1903, announces that it has remitted a further sum of Rs. 3,300 to Constantinople towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund, bringing the total of the remittances made by it up to date to Rs. 14,034-11-6. The Editor tenders his thanks to the subscribers and exhorts them to make further donations.

The same.

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the above Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,507	12	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	7	8	0
Total	...	14,515	4	11

The same.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 19th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 12th May 1903	...	96	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	0	0
Total	...	101	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
Grand Total	...	11,099	1	7

(*b*).—*Home.*

Government and the people.

5. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1903, quotes extracts from a certain historical work to show that the people of India are so loyal to their present rulers that on the occasion of the Sepoy Mutiny they stood by the latter and fought against their own countrymen. Indeed, but for their help Government would not have been able to withstand the mutineers for a single day. Is it then just that Government should oppress natives (*lit.* Hindus) and be indifferent to their well-being ?

Calls on India's purse.

6. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th (received on the 20th) June 1903, publishes a cartoon in which a jockey ("Government of India") is seen holding in his right hand the reins of a charger, labelled "England," having only a saddle on its back. To his left stands an ass ("India") bent under the weight of a large number of bags, labelled "Subsidy to the Amir," "Allowances to the Khans of Kabul," "Pay, &c., of Anglo-Indian officers," and "Subscriptions, &c." The letter-press runs as follows :—

Jockey (who has in his left hand a bag inscribed "Cost of Education").—"The horse is very restive, but it is enough that it bears its own saddle. The ass can carry heavy loads ; let me add this ("Cost of Education") also to its burden."

Punch.—"Only look at the ass and do not ask how it fares."

The Secretary of States' knowledge of India.

7. The *Edward Gazette* (Kasur), of the 17th June 1903, remarks that it has already shown that the knowledge of Anglo-Indian officers of matters Indian is sadly defective. But the evil does not end here. The Secretary of State for India, who has to depend upon these gentlemen for information, cannot naturally gain any correct knowledge of the country he rules from over the seas. Again, his Council is composed mostly of retired Anglo-Indian officials, and these cannot be expected to throw light upon the administrative abuses for which they themselves are responsible. In the above circumstances it is very difficult for the head of the India Office to come to know of the real state of affairs in India. To make matters worse Indian questions are laid before Parliament at a time when most of the members have either left London or are too tired to take any interest in work. It will, however, be unfair to conclude from the above that there is no love lost between England and her greatest dependency. The Editor then goes on to say that the question of the poverty of India has of late been agitating the public mind both in this country and England. The official classes hold India herself responsible for her poverty, while the public lay the blame at the door of Government.

III.—Native States.

Government and Kashmir.

8. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 13th June 1903, remarks that it is said that on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar the Viceroy asked the Maharaja of Kashmir to cede his country to Government.

Later on he invited His Highness to Calcutta and repeated the demand, asking the Maharaja to execute the necessary agreement. According to rumour, Sir Partab Singh replied in clear language that Kashmir having been purchased by one of his ancestors and Government being bound not to take it back, he declined to part with it. He added that Government having already deprived him of all power he was unwilling to enter into any newjagreement, although Government could do with him and Kashmir whatever it liked. Lord Curzon spoke to the Maharaja about the doings of Russia, &c., and tried to impress on him the necessity for building and garrisoning a fort on the Kashmir frontier, and constructing a railway to that part of the country. In reply His Highness informed His Excellency that, if necessary, his State would undertake both the projects at its own expense. The question will be finally settled during the Viceroy's visit to Kashmir in September next. As Russia is advancing steadily towards India and Government is always anxious on that score, it is not improbable that Sir Partab Singh may have to part with Kashmir, although he will not do so willingly. Government should stand by its engagements and do nothing to offend His Highness.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

9. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th June 1903, remarks that the Muhammadans are very thankful to learn that the mosque near the Lahore Railway Station in which is located the Office of the Traffic Superintendent of the North-Western Railway has been evacuated and will be made over to them before the end of September next.

Evacuation of a mosque at Lahore.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*).—*Judicial.*

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th and 18th June 1903, publishes the following :—

The case agianst the *Akhbar-i-'Am*.

"It would be absurd and improper on our part to conceal our plight from our patrons, the readers of the *Akhbar-i-'Am*. It is they who value the *Akhbar-i-'Am* and it is to serve them that we carry on our shoulders the crushing burden of the responsibilities of journalism. During its 33 years' life the *Akhbar-i-'Am* has seen many vicissitudes of fortune, and we intend writing a detailed account of these and making a present of it to our readers. * * * * A perusal of this interesting publication will show what services the *Akhbar* has, in its humble way, rendered the country and how steadily it has been progressing with the times. * * * * The series of overwhelming misfortunes which, in spite of the journalistic experience it has acquired and the caution and prudence it has been displaying during the above long period, have befallen it of late show clearly enough that there is a Power which will have its course, human efforts, experiences and cautions notwithstanding. * * * * * * We grant that the institution by Government of the case which has brought the present evil days on us * * * * was the result of our own ignorance, foolishness, imprudence * *, pride * *, obscene inclinations * *, dishonesty, baseness, wickedness * *, ill-nature, &c., &c., * * * * * as certain of our kind contemporaries have tauntingly remarked. * * * But we wish to ask them to enlighten us as to the cause of the misfortunes which befell us in quick succession prior to our prosecution. * * * * * We have nothing to say against Government * * * * which, by involving us in a criminal case, has landed us in our present plight. Nor have we any complaint to make against the Deputy Commissioner who, in the discharge of his duty, has done what he deemed proper. There is no necessity to state and prove how careful and ready the *Akhbar-i-'Am* is to serve Government, whom

it wishes well. Our present evil days are undoubtedly traceable to our bad luck, which makes everything go wrong * * * * and involves in ruin the ablest and the most cautious. * * * * If there is anything which sustains our courage in the midst of the black clouds surrounding us it is that, instead of feeling disgusted with its usual duty of serving the country, our heart seems to have been still more determined to continue in that course. * * * * * We realized our ill-luck as soon as Government's indignation led it to prosecute the *Akhbar-i-'Am*. We are not ignorant of the prestige, grandeur and power of Government; and it was nothing but misfortune—extreme misfortune—for the *Akhbar-i-'Am* to have to bear the brunt of Government's anger. * * * * If we have been worsted in a fight with our beloved Government we have no great cause to feel ashamed. What are we? Who is there on the face of the earth who could pit himself against the present rulers of India and not be humbled? * * * * * There is none even among the masters of foreign countries who could incur the displeasure of the British Government and still know a life of ease and rest. * * * * It is Government's known sense of justice which makes it conform to law and procedure even when displeased with anybody, otherwise what can it not do with impunity? * * * We shall indicate later on what lesson the case has taught us and how that lesson has strengthened our religious and moral convictions. * * * It would have been a thousand times better that Government had not had to launch the prosecution and undergo the expense and trouble incidental thereto. * * * * * Our despairing heart, which beat in the breast of a private man, was seized with the fear that nothing could possibly be achieved against Government. It told us that it was useless to enter the lists against Government, and advised us to admit our guilt and throw ourselves on its mercy, seeing that happen what might victory was assured to Government. But the public, whom an idea of their rights and privileges transports to the seventh heaven, did not view the matter in the same light. The opinion of our sanguine friends prevailed, and it was to the effect that the particular passages alleged to be obscene were by no means so, and that Urdu novels and other books abounded in far worse obscenities. We were even shown a book, published at Calcutta under the authority of the Government of India itself, containing several passages which could be called obscene. Our friends argued that even if the incriminating articles could be considered obscene, the obscenity was of an extremely slight and doubtful character, and that in the case of a conviction the punishment could not exceed a few rupees fine. * * * * We were given to understand that the question was one of Urdu literature and that by fighting out the case we would be laying that literature under a debt of gratitude, for otherwise a considerable portion of it would have to be discarded. * * * * The Deputy Commissioner was under the impression that a punishment of fine would not be sufficiently deterrent, which must be ascribed to our bad luck. * * * * * That officer has no reason to be at enmity with us, and his vigilance, sense of justice and kind disposition are the popular talk of the district. We beg to assure him from the bottom of our heart that it is not true that we would not have profited by being punished with a mere fine. * * * We do not possess the riches of Crœsus that we should regard punishments of fine with contempt * * * * * The case has hit us very hard, but we would honestly assure (Government) that our offence was not premeditated. Government's admonition has opened our eyes, and we will profit by the experience! Let it be granted that far more objectionable articles have been seen in several newspapers and magazines, and that no notice has been taken of them. The *Akhbar-i-'Am*, however, can boast that every word in it is carefully read; and on this a journal may justly pride itself. God grant that we may be able to preserve this cause of pride! Our motives were above board and we accept Government's admonition with gratitude."

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

11. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1903, states that generally speaking there is only one Hindu and one Muhammadan waterman at every station (on the North-Western Railway). As soon as a train

Supply of drinking water to passengers.

reaches a station passengers commence shouting for water. But how can one waterman quench the thirst of hundreds in a few minutes? The Railway authorities should take pity on the travelling public and post four watermen even at small stations during the hot weather.

A suggestion to provide separate accommodation for sweepers.

12. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 13th June 1903, remarks that the practice of seating sweepers in the same railway carriages with Hindus is a source of considerable inconvenience and annoyance to the latter, whose religion forbids them to touch the former. It would appear that Government is not aware of this, or the evil would have been remedied long ago, and this can be done merely by reserving a compartment for sweepers. Recently the Hindus and Muhammadans (of Amritsar) submitted a memorial to the Manager of the North-Western Railway on the subject, but that officer's reply to Bawa Narayan Singh, a local Pleader and Municipal Commissioner, seems to have been given in an off-hand manner. The people are thinking therefore of laying the matter before the Government of India, who may be depended upon to put an end to the complaint. It is not the intention of Government that His Majesty's subjects in this country should be offended for trifles; but the difficulty is that public servants do not take notice of the representations made to them.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Complaint against Patwaris.

13. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th June 1903, suggests that Revenue Officers should not content themselves with merely inspecting the registers, &c., kept by Patwaris. They should also ascertain what sort of moral character a Patwari bears and whether his expenses exceed his income. In the latter case and if the extra amount is made up of bribes, severe notice should be taken of the man's conduct. It is to be wished that the officers named would issue instructions directing Patwaris to keep only one mare, for the latter can only maintain more animals by fleecing the *zamindars*. If any section of the population carry on looting in broad daylight it is Patwaris; and Government should not overlook the evil.

European widows and orphans in India.

14. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 16th June 1903, sympathises with the efforts of Lord Curzon to provide for the few European orphans and widows in the country. But what guarantee is there that the numbers of such persons will not in course of time swell to hundreds of thousands. Again, is it certain that Government will not for their benefit also issue orders similar to those promulgated by it regarding the larger employment of Eurasians in the Railway Department? Can Lord Curzon, moreover, undertake that the said European settlers in India will not, like the Americans, establish their own independent rule in the country? It therefore appears advisable that they should be shipped off to England, where they will be far better off than here.

Do Europeans never tell lies?

15. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 17th June 1903, states that in a case in which a European was recently charged with assault (on the Station Master of Sirampur?) the Magistrate has decided in favour of the accused

on the strength of the latter's own evidence, remarking that in such cases Europeans are not in the habit of telling lies. The Editor does not attach much importance to the incident which led to the institution of the case, for such occurrences have become the order of the day. He is much more concerned with the Magistrate's remark, which would seem to imply that statements made by "Niggers" are wholly worthless as compared with those of Englishmen. Facts prove that the assertion that "Europeans never tell lies" is entirely false and without foundation. Does not the Magistrate in question know that the reports of European Christians have, generally speaking, been found to be wanting in truth. Besides, did not Government resort to a barefaced lie and to deception in order to obtain possession of the Bengal Presidency? Did not, moreover, the 9th Lancers stationed at Sialkot tell a black lie with the object of suppressing the commission of a murder? Again, are not deception and fraud much more prevalent in the Continent of Europe than in this country? It is to be regretted that remarks like the one quoted above should intentionally be made to wound the feelings of the poor and loyal natives.

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Nil.

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(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs—

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	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,100 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ..	350 copies.
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
5	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	2,500 copies.
6	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
7	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	400 copies.
8	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur, District.	Yaqub Ali ...	350 ,,
9	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	...
10	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	500 copies.
11	Bahawal Gazette ...	Do. ...	Muhammad Jan ...	...
12	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 copies.
13	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din...	1,400 ,,
14	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,500 ,,
15	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, Shahpur District	Ram Labhaya ...	500 ,,
16	Edward Gazette ...	Qasur, Lahore District...	Kartar Singh ...	...
17	Gham Khar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Data Kishen ...	450 copies.
18	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	900 ,,
19	Gulzar-i-Ibrahim ...	Maler Kotla ...	Abdul Lati ...	...
20	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	3,280 copies.
21	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Prag Narain ...	150 ,,
22	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 ,,
23	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	300 ,,
24	Khalsa Bahadur ...	Lahore ...	Rajindar Singh ...	...
25	Koh-i-Nur ...	Do. ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	100 copies.
26	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 ,,
27	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 ,,
28	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,000 ,,
29	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 ,,
30	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Sardar Bishen Singh ...	500 ,,
31	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal Beri ...	...
32	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	650 copies.

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
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33	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 copies.
34	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Pohlo Mal ...	3,500 „
35	Punja-i-Fulad ...	Do. ...	Lala Ishar Das ...	...
36	Rafiq-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Muharram Ali, Chishti...	400 copies.
37	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	200 „
38	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Abdul Qaddus ...	300 „
39	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	650 „
40	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	250 „
41	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 „
42	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mumtaz Ali ...	240 „
43	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	350 „
44	Urdu Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Munshi Ram ...	...
45	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,500 copies.
46	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,419 „
47	Wafadar Delhi Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 „
48	Watan ...	Do. ...	Karm Bakhsh ...	2,000 „
49	Zamindar ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	...
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
50	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Mirza Khan	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
51	Mulla Jafar Zatalli ...	Lahore ...	Mulla Muhammad Bakhsh.	...
52	Sanatan Dharam Gazette ...	Do. ...	Pandit Gopi Nath ...	700 copies.
53	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karam Bakhsh ...	500 „
	MONTHLY.			
54	Bharat Partap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma.	500 copies.
55	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	...
56	Mujallu Tibboia ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Abdul Ghafur and Munshi Muhammad Umar.	...
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
57	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 26.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 4th July 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The treatment of natives in foreign British possessions.

1. The *Edward Gazette* (Kasur), of the 24th June 1903, remarks that the services rendered by native dooli-bearers during the Boer War have been rewarded with the expulsion of Indian immigrants from the conquered territories and their subjection to many indignities. One thousand three hundred and twenty camels and 500 drivers are now to be despatched, or have been despatched, to Somaliland from the Punjab. It remains to be seen whether on the subjugation of the said part of Africa similar blessings will be showered on these natives of India. At all events, the Editor prays for victory for the British arms, for then the people will soon know what is in store for them.

Turkey and Servia.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 19th June 1903, writing about the Belgrade assassinations and the utter extermination of the dynasty to which the murdered King and Queen belonged, remarks that one of the two rival families, which had by turns been wielding the sceptre since Servia became independent, has been punished for its treason (in former times) against the Turkish Government. It now remains to be seen how the other fares, and what punishment the Almighty Avenger metes out to it for its ingratitude to Turkey. Several historians have asked the question—"Why, after conquering Christian States, did the Turks not wipe their people off the face of the earth just as the white colonists of Australia and America have done with the aborigines?" or, "Why did they not render the conquered Christians as helpless as most of the European powers are doing *their* non-European subjects?" These historians are of opinion that had not the Turkish Government granted independence to the above States and treated them in a lenient manner its possessions in South-Eastern Europe would have remained intact. The writers in question should know that it is due to the gentlemanly conduct of the Turks that God has defeated five centuries of united effort on the part of Europe to bring the Turkish Empire to ruin. And, on the other hand, Spain, Greece, Servia, Roumania, &c., which are independent Christian Kingdoms, have, owing to their internecine quarrels, pride and poverty, been reduced to a condition to which no country can fall even under the most

oppressive foreign rule. The hands which used to cut the throats of helpless Muhammadans are now turned against one another—than which there can be no greater punishment in this world.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd and 26th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,515	4	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	25	8	0
Total	...	14,540	12	11

The same.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 19th May 1903	...	101	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	24	0	0
Total	...	125	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,123	1	7

The same.

5. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 20th June 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th June 1903	...	645	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	2	3	0
Total	...	647	6	0

(*b*).—*Home.*

Poverty of India.

6. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 24th June 1903, remarks that in the beginning the official classes persistently refused to believe the existence of poverty in India. Even when they were forced to realize the evil, they ascribed it to wholly specious causes, *i.e.* continued draught, the people's extravagance and their aversion to emigration. Although these causes appear to be strong and plausible enough, on a careful examination of facts their absurdity becomes patent even to the dullest intellect. As to the first cause, were it a true one, the famines in India would be those of food-grains. As a matter of fact, however, they are famines of money, as was pointed out by Lord Elgin two years ago. Again, why for a hundred years or so have there been no famines in Egypt, where rain is even more scarce and where the only means of irrigation is the Nile ? The Editor promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

The Hon'ble Mr. Madan Gopal on Indian politics.

7. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1903, publishes a letter from Mr. Tahl Ram, who regrets that the Managing Committee of the Dayanand Anglo-Vedic College, Lahore, should have selected the Hon'ble Mr. Madan Gopal to preside at the recent distribution of prizes to the students of the College. Was no Arya Samajist worthy of the honour available ? The gentleman named has no connection with the Samaj nor has he any sympathy with the movement. As to his political views, which are an open secret, he would rather see his country go to the dogs than give up flattering the authorities with a view to securing titles and grants of land for himself. In the course of his presidential address he gave the students named to understand that natives had no political rights. This means that the people of this country should rest content with a life of poverty and slavery. On the other hand, however, Mr. Madan Gopal considers it necessary that he himself should have every political right, *i. e.* he should be a member of the local Legislative Council and all that. It is possible that his object in assailing the political creed of his fellow-countrymen was to curry favour with the powers that be and pave his way to a Judgeship of the Chief Court. If the surmise is correct he has adopted an extremely improper plan to gain his end. At all events, there is no room for doubt that he does not deserve being called a leader of the Hindus of this Province.

III.—Native States.

Government and Kashmir.

8. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 20th June 1903, says that Lord Curzon's coming visit to Kashmir has given rise to a rumour regarding the annexation of that part of the country. Recently it has been rumoured in Rawalpindi and other places that the Maharaja is to be given Sialkot and certain other places in exchange for Kashmir. It is now whispered in Simla that the resignation tendered by His Highness at the beginning of his rule is to be reconsidered. The Editor then refers to the circumstances under which the resignation was tendered and describes how, on the strength of certain forged letters, purporting to be addressed to the Czar, diverse threats were held out to Sir Pertab Singh. He also describes how the publication by the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* of the Durand Minute, which showed that Government wished to occupy Gilgit, let the cat out of the bag and showed that the resignation of the Maharaja was only a pretext for Government to carry out its wishes. The Editor concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

"Kashmir and its friends."

9. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 24th June 1903, writes as follows :—

"The announcement of the Viceroy's intention to pay a visit to Kashmir and to discuss certain important matters of State with His Highness the Maharaja, following the visit of His Highness to Calcutta immediately after the Darbar, has given occasion to sensation-mongers to invent all sorts of evil forebodings for the State. In expressing sympathy with its ruler, this spirit has been carried to such an extreme in some quarters that the Maharaja will be justified if he cried 'God save me from my friends'! A paragraph in the *Bengalee*, for instance, contains the following lines: 'For some time past, rumour has been rife to the effect that the present Maharaja of Kashmir is to be the last

ruler of Kashmir, which will ere long be marked red on the map of India in a sense which was so well understood by the lion-hearted Ranjit.' That a responsible organ of public opinion should see no objection in publishing so incredible and preposterous a rumour is really astonishing. The publication of such paragraphs even as rumours cannot but embitter the feelings of the people towards their rulers, as these lead them to regard the British in the light of usurpers, and rouses indignation against them on the ground of taking away, without any reason, the territories of their friends and allies, who have faithfully stood by them in their time of need. As to Kashmir, it may safely be stated that no painting red of its map can possibly be contemplated at present and if there is to be any change it is likely to be with regard to a part of the Maharaja's territory over which he has even now but a nominal control and which, while of little practical benefit to the State, is eminently valuable to the British from the strategical point of view of the Imperial Government. If any slice of territory is taken away, it will be accompanied with suitable compensation and the *status quo* of the ruler of Kashmir will be preserved."

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

Mr. Robertson's report.

10. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Lahore), of the 22nd June 1903, remarks that Mr. Robertson's recommendations regarding the administration of Indian Railways are very important and useful. He has pointed out in very forcible language the grievances of third class passengers, laying particular stress on the shameful treatment accorded to this section of the travelling public by Railways and Police officials. These grievances, however, can be redressed only if the Railway authorities employ respectable natives, by offering them handsome salaries, to look after the comfort of passengers. The Editor further remarks that the adoption of the aforesaid recommendations will add to the convenience of the travelling public and make Lord Curzon's name remembered with thankfulness and gratitude.

Grievances of native passengers.

11. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1903, refers to the grievances of the native travelling public and finds fault with the Railway authorities for their indifference to them. He also adverts to the "barbarous treatment" accorded to the pilgrims to Hardwar on the occasion of the last Kumbh fair, and alleges that the cooping up of natives in goods-wagons and horse-boxes on the occasion of important fairs is done at the instance and with the permission of the Railway authorities. The excuse that this is done from sheer necessity is a very clumsy one, seeing that the Railway Department knows full well when and where a large fair is to be held and could easily manage to supply passenger carriages on these occasions. Whenever Managers of Indian Railways are guilty of subjecting native passengers to hardship and inconvenience Government should take severe notice of their conduct.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Soldier-Clerks and the payment of the income-tax.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1903, remarks that the *Pioneer* of the 15th idem reports that Soldier-Clerks, serving in the offices of the Quartermaster-General, Inspector-General of Artillery, &c., whose pay does not exceed Rs. 500, are to be exempted from the payment of the income-tax. It is not easy to account for this extraordinary and illegal concession, except

on the ground that Government considers it a duty to please and fatten British soldiers. At all events, the concession has been made in favour of a class of men who receive handsome salaries, have no land revenue to pay and receive many favours.

Treatment of natives by British soldiers.

13. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 26th June 1903, remarks that British soldiers treat natives in a very harsh manner and are sometimes cruel enough to kill the latter outright. Native newspapers have been deprecating the evil for a long time past, and their efforts have borne fruit at last. The new Commander-in-Chief, who is a veritable Daniel, has issued a General Order with a view to putting an end to the existing state of affairs. The Editor publishes a translation of the order.

The same.

14. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that the commission of the offences referred to in the General Order brings discredit, not only on their perpetrators, but on the regiments to which the offenders belong. It also says that British soldiers are too weak to control their passions and do not value discipline. As regards officers, the existing state of affairs lays them open to the charge that they cannot keep their subordinates in hand. It is to be hoped that Lord Kitchener's orders will gain the laudable end they are meant to serve.

The same.

15. The *Chaudhwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd June 1903, publishes the substance of the General Order aforesaid, and wishes that assaults by British soldiers on natives would become a thing of the past.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 11th July 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Ill-treatment of Indians in other parts of the British Empire.

1. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 1st July 1903, reprints an article from the *Panja-i-Faulad*, which says that recently the Government of Australia issued orders regarding the exclusion of Indian lascars from steamers conveying mails to that country. Mr. Chamberlain has deprecated the creation of invidious distinctions between the black and white subjects of the British Government, and says that Great Britain follows the principle (perhaps it is not considered necessary to act on it) that all classes of her subjects have equal rights. He has, therefore, advised the Australian Commonwealth to withdraw the above orders, as they are calculated to injure natives,—as if the people of India have not been injured enough already! The only way, however, to bring Australia to her senses is for the Government of India to levy a very heavy octroi duty on goods imported from that country or subject the Australians coming to India to restrictions similar to those imposed by them on Indian immigrants. It is only on paper that Mr. Chamberlain can show sympathy with the said immigrants: he is not to be found translating his sympathy into action. While travelling in South Africa he was told how the Colonists ill-treated their Indian neighbours, but to no purpose. The latter then represented their hard case to Lord Milner, but with no better result. Are not natives British subjects, and has the British Government forgotten the late Queen Empress' Proclamation promising equal treatment and rights to both her black and white subjects?

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th June and 3rd July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	14,540	12	11
(1) Through anonymous subscriber, Nepal	155	0	0
(2) Small subscriber	17	10	0
Total ...	14,713	6	11

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 26th June 1903	...	125	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	12	0	0
Total	...	137	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,135	1	7

4. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 27th June and 4th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 20th June 1903	...	647	6	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	8	0	0
Total	...	655	6	0

(*b*).—*Home.*

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 7th July 1903, in an article headed "India in Parliament," writes as follows :—

Lord Curzon's rumored extension of office.

"This week's English Mail papers contain reports of questions asked in Parliament and the answers returned thereto about several matters of pressing importance relating to India. The answers given by Lord George Hamilton are of an unsatisfactory character, but in some cases they show that perseverance and persistance are sufficient to make even Lord George Hamilton think that he owes a duty to this country."

* * * * *

"Mr. Herbert Roberts asked the Secretary of State for India whether he was in a position to make any statement with regard to the decision arrived at with respect to the extension of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty in India. Lord George Hamilton replied that he had no statement to make on the subject. It is clear that nothing has as yet been decided about this matter. Although a number of statements have appeared in newspapers which more or less profess to be in the confidence of the Ministers, there is no denying the fact that nothing definite has as yet been decided upon. Our impression is that if Lord Curzon wishes to stay a couple of years longer than the usual term of office, the Ministry will permit him to do so. If he wishes to have leave for six months before entering upon his period of extension, we do not think the Ministers will find any difficulty in making the necessary arrangement. It is true that Lord Curzon cannot have any leave of absence from this country until an Act of Parliament is passed to enable him to do so; but we do not think that Mr. Balfour and his colleagues need experience any difficulty in getting this done. They are sure of their party majority, and we do not think many persons in the present Parliament will oppose the passing of such an Act even on grounds of principle. Men in the British Parliament who are in a position to write and speak about India and her affairs with ability, conscientiousness and interest are in a minority, whilst there are many ready and eager to help the Gov-

ernment to carry through anything relating to India that they wish to. Our conviction is that this question about the extension of the period of the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon will be settled by Mr. Balfour and his colleagues irrespective of the interests of this country and the wishes and requirements of her people. If it suits the Ministers to keep Lord Curzon out of active participation in British politics for another two years—and this arrangement also meets with His Excellency's approval—we may rest assured that the extension will be granted." * * * * *

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Arya Samaj and proselytising.

6. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 30th June 1903, states that some 30 or 40 years ago a *Kahar* of Amritsar embraced the Christian religion. On his death some Babus advised his son, who is employed in the Irrigation Department, to discard that faith. On the young man agreeing to this a few days ago the local Arya Samajists had him, his wife, his daughter, sister, &c., "purified" at the house of Lala Sham Das, Pleader. The converts distributed sweetmeats to those present at the ceremony, some of whom ate the sweets then and there. The function was also witnessed by some Christians and Muhammadans, and the Aryas ate and drank with the converts, sitting on the same carpet with them. It would appear from this that Swami Dayanand's followers have begun to admit non-Aryas into the Samaj openly. The Sikhs should take note of this and lose no time in following the example.

VI.—Legislation.

Working of the Punjab Land Alienation Act.

7. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, says that in reviewing the working of the Punjab Land Alienation Act the Lieutenant-Governor remarks that the zamindars are very pleased with the Act. Indeed, they have good reason to be pleased, seeing that the deeds executed by them have been rendered so much waste paper and they can snap their fingers in the face of *Sahukars*. The real effect of the legislation in question will be realised a few years hence.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*).—*Judicial.*

A British soldier charged with murdering a native coachman.

8. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), dated the 1st July 1903, says that the news that a native coachman at Meerut has been cruelly done to death by a British soldier has not surprised it in the least. Nor will it surprise it to have to announce in about a fortnight that the murderer has been acquitted on the ground that death was due to a kick from the horse (harnessed to the deceased's carriage). The witnesses for the prosecution will probably consist of natives, who have recently been declared to be liars by the Sessions Judge of Sirampur. It is quite possible that the Cantonment Magistrate of Meerut may share this opinion and hesitate to believe the witnesses. It is strange that roguery and licentiousness should be on the increase in civilized countries, but that the charge of untrustworthiness should be laid at the door of natives only.

(*b*).—*Police.*

The Police Commission.

9. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 26th June 1903, says that the *Pioneer* announces that the Police Commission have suggested an extra expenditure of three crores a year in order to reform the Police, but that there is no likelihood of the Secretary of State for India sanctioning the proposal. Apparently the amount proposed to be spent is a very large one, and it does not seem fair to burden impoverished India with it. The Police Department and its employés are, however, in such a pitiable condition that the suggested expenditure does not seem excessive. The Editor then describes how the members of the Police force are very inadequately paid, and remarks that if they were given an increase of pay they would give up their present corrupt and oppressive practices.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

Amritsar Municipal affairs.

10. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st July 1903, remarks that since his appointment as Secretary of the local Municipality, Mr. Gow has been rectifying the mistakes made by his predecessor. He is also reforming every branch of the Municipal Office and has adopted measures to put an end to mismanagement and embezzlement. The conservancy staff is also working better, while the Inspector of Foods has grown diligent in the performance of his duty. The Octroi Department alone shows some defects, which should be removed without loss of time. The Department ought to have some regard for the convenience of traders, from whom it derives thousands of rupees.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

Grievances of Railway servants.

11. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer states that while all other offices in India were closed on the King-Emperor's last birthday, the Railway Offices at Delhi were kept open as usual. Lord Curzon should attend to the hard lot of Railway servants, who are the lowest paid and hardest worked officials in the country. It is by no means rare for a Clerk drawing Rs. 15 a month to work for as many as 16 hours a day. To make matters worse, he is fined four to eight annas for every trival mistake committed by him. Again, the officials in question are not granted retiring pensions, while they find it next to impossible to obtain leave of any description, and have to work even on public holidays. Were only the hands working on lines required to be at their posts on holidays, there would be some excuse for this. To compel clerks to attend office on such occasions is certainly without rhyme or reason.

Complaint against the Oudh and Rohilkand Railway.

12. A correspondent of the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, writing about the Oudh and Rohilkand Railway, complains that in case the number of third class passengers is unusually large they are seated in coal trucks. The practice is not considered objectionable by the authorities concerned, seeing that the trucks have painted on them directions as to the

number of passengers to be seated during the cold and the hot weather respectively. Again, ice is not sold in the trains running between Saharanpur and Hardwar, while cold drinking water cannot be had at the stations on that section of the Railway Accomodation for intermediate class passengers on that section is also insufficient, and they have not infrequently to travel third class. Moreover there are no latrines in intermediate class carriages run on the Oudh and Rohilkand Railway, while separate compartments or carriages are not provided for third and intermendiate class female passengers. The Government of the United Provinces as well as the Railway authorities concerned should institute inquiries with a view to remedy the defects referred to.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

A complaint against British Military officers.

13. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 28th June 1903, remarks that on no occasion has Government taught a lesson to a British Military Officer guilty of having used abusive language towards a native gentleman. Nor has a native thus used ever mustered courage enough to lay the matter before the higher authorities (!). It is not easy to say whether Lord Kitchener's recent General Order regarding the ill-treatment of Natives by British soldiers will have the effect of making foul-mouthed officers more civil-spoken. If the Commandant, Major, Captain or Lieutenant of a regiment is himself addicted to indulging in abusive language, how is he to be kept under control? There are Military Officers who do not care much for the *izzat* of native gentlemen, have no hesitation in abusing the latter at any time in both English and Hindustani, and flare up still further on being asked to hold their tongue. The Commander-in-Chief should make all, from the Colonel down to the Lieutenant, understand that every officer reported to him to have used force or abusive language (towards a native) will be suspended forthwith and tried by a commission. Native gentlemen do not care to go to law after being abused (!), for this is tantamount to proclaiming their humiliation to the world.

Ill-treatment of Natives by British soldiers.

14. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, reprints Lord Kitchener's recent orders regarding ill-treatment of Natives by British soldiers, and expresses satisfaction at the authorities beginning to realize the value of native life. The change will not only better the lot of the people, but will have the effect of strengthening the foundations of British rule in India.

Forced labour and slavery.

15. The following paragraph appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903 :—

"So demoralising are the effects of the money-grabbing tendency created by the Rand Mining Companies that even women interested in them have got hardened against sympathy. *Truth* speaks of a letter received from a lady protesting against his denouncing forced labour in South Africa because she had bought the shares of a South African mine at a high premium, and she would be a loser if there were not forced labour. 'My good lady,' asks *Truth*, 'why did you buy your shares at this premium? Do you really suppose that this country is likely to permit slavery within its area in order that you and others equally situated may not lose money?' But *Truth* perhaps credits his countrymen with a greater share of liberal instincts than they possess. Great Britain will tolerate slavery, though she may not actually foster it, where her interests will suit it or will not suffer therefrom; but she will assume an air of righteousness at the very

mention of forced human labour, where she can do so at other people's expense and without risking anything of her own. Is it not forced human labour that is going on in the Assam tea plantations ?"

Social intercourse between Native and European ladies.

16. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1903, a newspaper conducted by a native lady, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that the majority of native women are desirous of cultivating the friendship of their European sisters. But the question is, whether it is at all possible for middle class women among the former to mix with the latter. The *parda* system and the ill-temper of some European ladies makes such intercourse an utter impossibility. One of the chances the women of this country have to meet their sisters from over the seas is travelling in the train. It is, however, scarcely necessary to refer to the ill-treatment they receive at the hands of some of the latter on such occasions. The correspondent once chanced to step into a carriage in which a few European ladies, apparently well-born, had already taken their seats. To begin with they objected to her travelling in the carriage at all, and subsequently, notwithstanding their knowledge that she could understand English, they used such language about native women that the mere recollection of it harrows her soul ! This was the first occasion on which she heard a *Mem* apply highly insulting epithets to the female members of her race. One of her fellow-passengers also remarked that the Railway Department should supply separate accommodation for native women. This would show that an ordinary European woman will not tolerate the company of a well-connected native gentlewoman even for a few hours, and, by ill-treating the latter, throws a blot on the name of the civilized nation to which she (the European) belongs. The writer then goes on to say that her native sisters have also opportunities to meet Missionary ladies. The intercourse cannot, however, benefit them in the least,—nay, it leads to consequences the reverse of beneficial. There can be no doubt that among the ladies named are to be found women endowed with the highest qualities of heart and deserving of sincere respect. But their number is exceedingly small ; while it is very difficult to obtain access to them. The wives of highly-placed Native Officers assuredly come in contact with European gentlewomen, but the former's ignorance of English makes friendship between the two an impossibility. As regards public meetings and exhibitions, where also women of both nationalities come together, in the first place they are held very seldom and, secondly, the doings thereat are not unknown to the writers in the *Tahzib-i-Niswan*. The correspondent concludes by promising to resume the subject at some future time.

Commenting on the above the Editor remarks that one wishes to mix with persons of one's own rank and position in society. Native gentlewomen also are naturally desirous of moving among European ladies of the same social status. The latter's ill-mannered behaviour, however, makes the former turn away from them. As regards native Christian women, they are, with a few exceptions, drawn from the lowest classes, and their well-born sisters consider it beneath their dignity to mix with them. It may be added that the fact that European ladies in India belong to the ruling race, and not the ignorance of native women of English, is at the bottom of the want of friendship between the two.

17. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 1st July 1903, says that in writing about Balls in a previous issue it remarked that the conduct of a fairy-faced and immodestly dressed European lady lovingly throwing her delicate arms round a strange man's neck and dancing with him was reprehensible and shameless. It also enquired why European gentlemen, who possess plenty of brains, should look upon the participation of their wives and daughters in dances as a source of pride and honour. Several of the readers of the *Edward Gazette* tried to show that according to Western ideas of civilization there was nothing objectionable in the practice. The Editor admits the European's purity of mind, but he knows that unrestrained liberty, immodest dress and the influence of champagne are not the things to enable a weak and sensuous person to remain virtuous. He adds that he has found fault with dances merely to prevent their introduction into native society, which has of late been displaying a tendency to anglicisation.

About Balls.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—16-7-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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Received up to 18th July 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 3rd July 1903	...	137	3	0
Small subscriptions during the week	...	54	0	0
Total	...	191	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
Grand Total	...	11,189	1	7

2. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903 :—

France and England.

"The recent exchange of amenities between France and England on the occasion of the visit of His Majesty King Edward to Paris and in connection with the return visit which M. Loubet, the President of the Republic, is paying to the English capital cannot but be welcomed by all who desire the maintenance of peace in Europe. A glance over the past history of these two neighbouring countries shows that there has always been a struggle between the two for supremacy in different spheres of activity, and it is also a matter of common knowledge that the old rivalry has not been forgotten. In view of this state of things the cordial reception of His Majesty in France and the reciprocation of that hospitality by the people of England in welcoming M. Loubet on English soil are healthy signs which deserve every appreciation and encouragement. It is difficult, however, to tolerate the undue enthusiasm which these events have created among certain people, who have been carried away by their enthusiasm and declare the present demonstrations in England to be "a proof of the real interest for France and the French which had never died out in Great Britain." What had become of this interest, it may be asked, when the two countries were almost on the verge of a war over the Fashoda affair? The fact is that the significance of the courtesies now being exchanged between the heads of the Governments of England and France is after all not extraordinary. The English and the Germans as nations are not now on the best of terms, yet

the relations between the royalties of the two lands are of the closest friendship. We do not think there is reason to be too much elated at the recent feasting and hospitality in Paris and in London."

(*b*).—*Home.*

The National Congress.

3. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1903, remarks that it would appear that most of the European Officers in India are not satisfied with the doings of the National Congress. Anglo-Indian newspapers have frequently found fault with the work of that body, and declared in no uncertain terms that the adoption of some of its suggestions would prove detrimental to the interests of Government. As for the Muhammadans, the great majority of them not only do not participate in the deliberations of the Congress, but are opposed to the resolutions adopted by it, while many go the length of expressing disagreement with its *modus operandi*. It connot, moreover, be said that all Hindus approve of its proposals, nay, several have ventured to doubt their usefulness. The Congress reports, however, would show that the Congresswalas do not pay to the above facts the attention they deserve. They have done nothing to ascertain the arguments of their opponents; in fact, they are averse even to hearing these arguments. The writer then goes on to say that the authorities seem to be under the impression that the supporters of the movement in question are not sufficiently loyal to Government. Although Congress Resolutions are in reality the work of a very few persons, and the rest of the Congresswalas merely support the same on trust, the above suspicion attaches to each and every educated Hindu. It is scarcely necessary to point out that the creation of this impression in the minds of the authorities (on whose good opinion depends "our" national welfare) is extremely injurious (to the interests of the Hindus); according to some it has already begun to have this effect. The correspondent further remarks that the utterances of the Congresswalas indicate that according to these gentlemen the poverty of the masses is attributable mainly to the present administration, an opinion which is gradually becoming general. There can be no doubt that a little attention on the part of Government would serve to ameliorate the present hard lot of the poor; but Government cannot rightly be held responsible for the evil. The misapprehension on the part of the people that Government is the cause of all their troubles is calculated to lead them to view with suspicion Government's efforts in their behalf and to cause them to overlook the true causes of their poverty and thus fail to make suitable efforts towards a remedy. The writer concludes by promising to criticise some of the Congress Resolutions at some future time.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Kabul and its subsidy.

4. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th July 1903, publishes a cartoon in which a fair woman labelled "Indian Public Opinion" is shown, holding up to the "Government of India" a placard bearing the following inscription: "As there is nothing to be gained from the friendship of the Amir, why should the Government waste money in the vain pursuit

of it? How long is misguided generosity to last?" The letter-press runs as follows: "Whether you listen to our advice or not, we will continue to proffer it."

VI.—Legislation.

How to put a stop to bribe-taking.

5. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, alleges that the subordinate Court *amla* practises greater oppression and extorts more bribes than the Police itself. The authorities are aware of the evil, but are powerless to put a stop to it. The Editor then goes on to show how illegal gratifications are extorted at various stages of a legal proceeding by the harpies of Court from poor litigants. The evil could be remedied if the present law was amended so far as the giving of bribes under compulsion was concerned.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police Commission.

6. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 3rd July 1903, remarks that it has been made thoroughly clear to the Police Commission that the general public render the Police absolutely no help in the suppression of crime and working out of cases. In the first place, natives consider it a meretorious act to prevent anybody from being imprisoned, or to secure his release. Again, not a few afford protection to thieves in the hope of receiving stolen property, while some are so afraid of bad characters that they dare not complain against those gentry. Others are too kind-hearted to get any one involved in trouble, and leave everything to Providence. Hundreds of known murderers and fugitives from justice reside in the cities and towns of India, but no one thinks of giving information to the Police. The existing state of affairs is also due to the people's ignorance of law and of their legal obligations in respect of the preventing and reporting of crime. The only way to make them co-operate with the Police is to teach them in what things they should help the latter and what acts are punishable by law. Government should get a book compiled giving the necessary information in easy language, and make it a text-book in schools.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment affairs.*

Government and the people.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1903, writing about the treatment of certain residents of the Rawalpindi Cantonment by the local authorities, in connection with the plague administration there, says that in one article on the subject, the *Urdu Akhbar* asks whether there will ever come a day when the present rulers of India will cease to think of colour, and when natives, who have always been patient under the oppression practised on them by their various Governments, will, like the English, lead a life of liberty. This oppressed country should on no account cease to hope to see such a day, for the God who has rescued it from the oppression of Aurangzeb and the Sikhs and placed it under the just British rule may be depended upon to bring about the desired consummation, otherwise the Nadirshahi orders of Colonel Rose bring to mind the anarchy prevalent under the Sikh rule or in Native States.

8. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st July 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer states that under British rule

Cantonment Magistrates.

Cantonment Magistrates alone can lay claim to have been invested with unlimited powers. They may very aptly be compared with the blind man of the oriental saw who can beat anybody with perfect impunity. They can do whatever they like, and practically there is no appeal from their orders. If a Cantonment Magistrate pits himself against a meek, honest and respectable merchant or *Rais* residing in a Cantonment, the latter is certain to be defeated in the unequal contest. Perhaps it is their irresponsible doings which have necessitated the appointment of an Inspector to supervise the working of Cantonment Magistrates. The change is likely to prove very useful, provided the officer in question does not belong to the Military Department. The Editor concludes by suggesting that, if practicable, Cantonment Magistrates also should be Civilians.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, publishes a communication from Tahl Ram, Honorary Secretary, Zamindari Association

A suggestion to supply agriculturists with seed.

(Dera Ismail Khan), who says that the greatest obstacle in the way of agricultural progress in India is that good seed is not used. The *zamindars* are not ignorant of the advantages resulting from the use of good seed ; but the difficulty is that they do not find it easy to procure the same. Were this not so, both Government and the agriculturits would be very much better off. The former's annual receipts from land revenue amount to about Rs. 30,00,00,000, and it should spend a part of the amount in establishing seed stores in all districts. Should this be impracticable it should at least direct District Boards to supply the want. In Europe and America the produce per acre of land is five times that raised in this country and that this is due chiefly to the use of good seed.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

10. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th June and 4th July 1903, complains that passengers are

A Railway complaint.

subjected to great inconvenience in travelling between the Wazirabad and Lyallpur Stations. Not infrequently they have to wait for two days at a time in order to procure tickets, and even the third class passengers, for want of accommodation, are generally seated in goods wagons. The authorities should arrange to run an extra train between the stations named for the convenience of the travelling public.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

11. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, remarks that during the preceding week it had the

Murder of Natives by British soldiers.

painful duty to report the murder of a coachman at Meerut by a British soldier. A similar deplorable incident has taken place in the Sialkot Cantonment, where a private is said to have caused the death of a punkha-coolie by bayonetting him. When Lord Curzon punished

the 9th Lancers for screening certain members of the regiment guilty of murder, an outcry was raised in the Anglo-Indian Press and the House of Commons that the punishment was extremely severe. Circumstances have, however, proved that, so far from this being the case, the punishment has not had even a deterrent effect, for otherwise the recent murder at Sialkot would not have taken place.

The same.

12. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, says that a European soldier is being tried by the Chief Court for the murder of a punkha coolie at Sialkot. The defence set up by the accused is that he was insane at the time and not responsible for his actions. It remains to be seen whether any value is attached to the life of a native or whether the plea of insanity is considered sufficient for allowing the accused to escape scot free.

A Native killed at target practice at Sialkot.]

13. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 10th July 1903, states that the widow of a Native who was killed by accident by a stray bullet during target practice near Sialkot has been granted Rs. 150 by the Government as compensation. Is not this amount too much for the life of a Native ?

The same.

14. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903, writing on the same subject, says that this incident shows how cheap the life of a Native is held. Had a European lady been but slightly hurt in, say, a Railway accident, she would have received no less than ten or twenty thousand rupees as damages from the Railway concerned.

Advice to the Hindus and Muhammadans of India to unite.

15. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 3rd July 1903, reprints an article from the local *Kapaso Tajarat*, which, after exhorting natives to shake off their lethargy, remarks that owing to their having lived under the rule of foreigners for centuries the Hindus are wholly wanting in the feeling of national pride. But have the Muhammadans also, who were once so great in the arts of both war and peace, been laid by the heels ? Yes, they also are in the bondage of slavery now, and one would not wish even one's enemy the evil days on which they have fallen. In these circumstances the only hope of India advancing commercially lies in the union of Hindus and Mussalmans. It is true that the two communities profess different faiths, but this should not stand in the way of their material progress. The residents of Germany, England, America and other countries also hold different religious beliefs, but all the same they work unitedly in matters relating to commerce and politics. There is no reason why India, which has taught religious toleration to the rest of the world, should follow a different course. The Prophet's followers should forget their past career of conquest and war, and remember that now they can hold their own only by gaining victories in the field of knowledge. They possess pluck and physical strength, although they are not as wealthy as their Hindu neighbours. Their ancestral occupations have disappeared and are disappearing one by one, and they should revive these with the help of the Hindus. They should not look upon the latter as their enemies, but should secure their help by treating them like friends. On the other hand, the Hindus also should bury the dead past, and live with the

Muhammadans in friendship and amity. Foreign nations have their eyes on the two communities, and the latter's disunion and mutual quarrels are a source of prosperity and riches to the former. England, America and Germany are watching with mouths open and will gulp down India at the first opportunity. Will this opportunity be given them? Were the Hindus and Muhammadans to unite and not shirk occupations which they now look down upon, they would be certain to rise.

Why has India fallen on evil days?

16. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st July 1903, publishes a cartoon in which are seen a figure labelled "Prejudice," in the centre with two others, "Union" and "Mr. Punch," one on either side. The letter-press runs as follows:—

Prejudice.—"I am thoroughly enjoying myself. Thank God, I am having a very happy time of it."

Union.—"I am dead against prejudice, and would request the Hindus and Muhammadans to bethink themselves."

Mr. Punch.—"Prejudice jumps and dances in glee. It is the will of the Almighty that we should witness such a scene."

Lord Kitchener's orders regarding the ill-treatment of natives by British Soldiers.

17. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th July 1903, praises Lord Kitchener for issuing his recent General Order regarding the ill-treatment of natives by British Soldiers. The step taken by His Excellency shows that he is a strict disciplinarian and a philanthropic gentleman. Mere orders can, however, avail nothing: the end in view cannot be gained so long as exemplary punishment is not inflicted on offending soldiers.

Why the new rupees are not popular?

18. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st July 1903, says that the new rupees are not sufficiently artistic to be universally approved. Besides, they are considered particularly inauspicious in having the crown separated from the head. It would have been much better if these rupees resembled the old ones, substituting only the King-Emperor's bust for that of the late Queen. Moreover, the new rupees can be easily counterfeited, seeing there is nothing difficult about them to imitate.

Kashmiri Musalmans eligible for Military service.

19. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903, says that the Secretary of the local Kashmiri *Majlis* in answer to the representation presented to the Military authorities to remove the misapprehension prevailing among the people as to the eligibility of Kashmiris for military service, has been informed by the Adjutant-General in India that Kashmiri Musalmans, provided they are not otherwise disqualified, are eligible for such service.

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th and 13th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	14,713	6	11
Small subscriptions	102	12	0
Total ...	*14,816	2	11

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 10th July 1903 ...	191	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	9	0	0
Total ...	200	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	11,198	1	7

3. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 11th and 18th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 4th July 1903 ...	655	6	0
Small subscriptions	39	11	0
Total ...	695	1	0

* Of this sum Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank,

(*b*)—*Home.*

Increased pay to British troops in India.

4. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1903, writing about Lord Alverstone's award in the matter of increased pay to British troops in India, remarks that the change imposes a further burden of £ 786,000 on the Indian revenues. This addition to her Military expenditure has been made without so much as consulting India, while the necessity for it has been acknowledged to be an Imperial one. European soldiers in India are not meant for the exclusive benefit of this country, but are employed to serve in China, South Africa, and other countries. Nevertheless, the burden must be borne without demur, although it cannot but be regarded as an unjust imposition. India's objections to the imposition are strong and weighty, but the injustice involved has been ignored in view of the Imperial advantages likely to accrue. Public men in this country have been agitating for a reduction of the Military expenditure, but, through the perversity of luck, it has been added to. Congressmen may cry themselves hoarse, but practically speaking they are not listened to. Even the *Pioneer* deprecates Lord Alverstone's award and characterises the new burden on the Indian revenues as unjust ; but there is no help for it.

Natives and Government service.

5. The ***Paisa Akhbar*** (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903, remarks that facts are slowly coming to light which go to show that the Delhi Railway Conference was undoubtedly an official assembly. It has already been reported that the Telegraph authorities in Mysore recently invited applications for a large number of Signaller's posts, but added that Eurasian candidates alone were to be employed. The Traffic Superintendent of the Eastern Bengal State Railway has now enquired from the District officers under him whether it will not be better to post only Eurasian signallers to all important stations. It requires no stretch of imagination to understand that the officers named will be only too glad to reply to the question in the affirmative. The better paid and more respectable appointments on the said Railway, then, are to be reserved for Eurasians ; and it is of such invidious distinctions that natives complain. But let alone the Railways : the children of the soil are being excluded from better paid appointments in all Departments. In paragraph 37 of their report the Customs House Commission recommend that Europeans and Eurasians should be appointed to such posts in the Customs Department in larger numbers. Orders have also been issued to all Military Officers that in future only those clerks, who are not Natives of India, should be appointed to posts of which the pay is Rs. 200 or upwards. In other words, the clerkships in question will be open to Italians, Frenchmen, Germans and others, but not to the people of this country ! The Editor then refers to the concessions the Punjab Education Department has recently made in favour of European and Eurasian schools in the Province ; and remarks that though no Native has any right to prevent Government from treating the communities under reference generously, a respectful protest is not out of place when the generosity involves an injury to the rights of the children of the soil. According to an English proverb even the Devil must be given his due ; and there is no reason why the bread should be snatched out of the months of Natives in order to feed the already over-fed Eurasians.

6. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th July 1903, remarks that the Muhammadans of the United Provinces have at last realised the necessity for establishing a political association of their own. Efforts are being made to induce Musalmans of light and leading in every city to participate in the movement. A large meeting will shortly be held at Lucknow to start the society formally, which will work in opposition to the National Congress, and will have for its object the safeguarding of the political rights of the Prophet's followers.

Muhammadans and politics.

7. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 22nd July 1903 :—

Muhammadans, Hindus and the Congress.

"Commenting on the speech of Mr. Justice Amir Ali, at the last meeting of the Aligarh College Association, London, on the necessity of raising the College to the status of a University, the *Indian People* of Allahabad shirks the so many excellent arguments for the need of such a University and takes recourse to sarcasm. Observes our contemporary: 'They (Muhammadans) have learnt to distrust others, and their feeling, it is but truth to say, is reciprocated by others. They must have so many Muhammadan Municipal Commissioners, so many Muhammadan representatives in the Council, so many Muhammadan Tahsildars, and so many Muhammadan Deputy Collectors. They have also the merit of consistency—though it is not certain to what extent it may take them. Not content with demanding merely so many posts from the Government, on the plain ground that they are Muhammadans, they and their sympathisers have formulated a demand for a Muhammadan University, on the ground of their peculiar ideals, religious, ethical, and political. Some day we may hear that they will expect the Government to give them denominational railways and denominational roads.' If *tu quoques* have any use in deciding controversial questions, we would, in justice to Muhammadans, say that they are not the inaugurators of a *regime* of exclusiveness and sectarianism in matters secular in this country. In this respect the Indian Muhammadans are only following the lead of their more advanced countrymen, whose sectarian spirit has from 'Hindu Colleges' descended even to 'Hindu biscuits.' And it is on grounds of sheer justice and fair play that the Muhammadans demand an equal share in the government of the country. Administrative expediency should demand that a community which but lately had been in a political ascendancy and which possesses some of the best qualities for carrying on the work of administration must not be allowed, on the ground of a wholesale introduction of democratic principles of government for which India is not at all prepared, to be outstripped by others, who with all their so many admirable qualities have been their inferiors in this respect. If the entire Congress press is viewing with extreme jealousy and denouncing with its characteristic intemperateness the allotment of a few posts to Eurasians and Europeans, it is but bare justice on the part of the Muhammadans to insist on a proportionate allotment of the loaves and fishes of the Government which have hitherto been the undisputed monoply of their Hindu countrymen. And it would be a mere affectation to say that in some important respects the interests of the two communities are absolutely identical. True, trust begets trust; but why in all conscience the weaker member of the body politic is insisted upon to be more trustful and altruistic and magnanimous and high-souled? It is the duty of the more advanced and the stronger community to set an example in these respects; and yet by a curious irony of fate the more it is advancing the more grasping, more intolerant and more jealous it is growing."

III.—Native States.

8. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Amritsar), of the 11th July 1903, reprints the *Simla News'* remark about the rumoured annexation of Kashmir, and observes that some two months back it also published a similar note. It,

Government and Kashmir.

however, refuses to believe that the Maharaja voluntarily resigns Kashmir and is willing to accept some part of British territory in exchange. One will look in vain for the foolish man who dislikes the Happey Valley and is willing to receive hell in exchange for paradise. Why should Government resort to subterfuges, and why should it not say openly that it stands in need of Kashmir, and that it being the paramount power the Maharaja should seek his happiness in pleasing it? The Editor then express his inability to fathom the policy of Government, and wonders why the latter cannot have its way in Kashmir without annexing the country. It could subsidise the Maharaja, like the Amir, to place the defence of the frontier of Kashmir on a thoroughly satisfactory footing. The State is already administered by Government officials and the same arrangements could continue.

Nabha and Government.

9. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903, reports that on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar the Raja of Nabha represented to Lord Curzon that old age and feebleness having rendered it difficult for His Highness to administer the State the heir-apparent might be seated on the *gaddi* during his (the Raja's) lifetime. To this the Viceroy replied that he had nothing to say on the subject then, but that the Raja should send the Tika to Simla at some more suitable time, submitting simultaneously a petition embodying His Highness' wishes. This was done; but Government's reply to the ruler of Nabha is to the effect that the latter being in an indifferent state of health and his succession by his son during his lifetime being out of the question, it has been decided to appoint a council, with a European President, to administer the State.

Commenting on the above the Editor remarks that if the foregoing report is true—and there is no reason to doubt it—every right-minded person must feel surprised at the decision of Government. So long as the Raja's administration is satisfactory Lord Curzon should not accredit a European Officer to Nabha and give the people cause for accusing Government of meddlesomeness.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Mehghs and the Arya Samaj.

10. The Secretary, Sanatan Dharm Sabha, Sialkot, writing to the *Baharat Partap* (Jhajjar) for May (received on the 20th July) 1903, remarks that the Mehghs are found in large numbers in several districts of the Punjab, and generally speaking follow the trade of weaving. According to tradition they were cannibals once, and the other classes of people avoided their touch. Gradually they gave up cannibalism and began to follow the religious practices of the Hindus. Most probably this took place in the time of Kabir, and thence forward the Mehghs began to make progress. Not long ago the leading ones (among those in the Sialkot District) requested the Sialkot *Sanatan Sabha* to allow them to attend the meetings of the *Sabha*. The request was granted after consulting several eminent Pandits, and the Mehghs were advised to reform themselves still further. The Arya Samajists did not fail to take advantage of this and issued a notice promising to admit the Mehghs into the Vedic religion. They had the latter's heads shaved and got the converts to distribute sweets to those present at the "purification"

ceremony. The Hindus, however, would not admit the whilom Menghs into their society, and the latter received a beating at the first Kahar shop they entered to take their food. They are, therefore, worse off now.

Christians and Muhammadans *versus* the Hindus.

11. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1903, publishes a communication, from one Mohan Lal of Muktsar, who remarks that for many years past a great religious war has been going on in India. The aggressors consist of Christians and Muhammadans and those on the defensive are the Hindus, while the Arya Samaj has volunteered to fight on the side of the weaker party. The contest is, however, a very unequal one. The Christians enjoy the protection of Government, and the liberality of Europe and America is always their command. They also resort to fraud and deception in order to secure converts, while the thousands of Mission Schools and hospitals in the country are so many proselytising centres. As for the Muhammandans, their religion permits them to use force and violence towards the followers of other faiths. Besides, their contact with the Hindus is so close that they have many opportunities of winning converts from among the latter. Even the prostitutes among them consider it a meritorious deed to make immoral Hindus embrace Islam. They also receive at least pecuniary help from the frontier Chiefs, while they expect similar assistance from Musalman rulers of foreign countries. Indeed, the Amir of Kabul has already agreed to give the Anjuman-i-Himayat-i-Islam, Lahore, Rs. 500 a month. Turning to the Hindus, one is pained to find that they are indifferent to their lot and wholly wanting in the love of religion and feeling of nationality. To make matters worse, they are divided into innumerable sects, each of which teaches them to learn to be humble. It is such a people whom the Arya Samaj has undertaken to champion, and the undertaking is undoubtedly of a very difficult nature. The writer concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Death of a Native at Sialkot during target practice.

12. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 15th July 1903, referring to the recent case of a Native being accidentaly killed at Sialkot during target practice (*vide* paragraph 14 of Selections No. 28), remarks that the compensation paid to the heirs of the deceased is wholly inadequate. Apart from the fact that human life is too precious a thing to be priced at Rs. 150, the larger part of the amount must have been swallowed up by the funeral ceremonies of the dead. Very little, therefore, must have been left for the heirs, and the payment of the compensation cannot benefit them much. Had it so desired, Government could have helped them in a more befitting manner.

Treatment of natives by British soldiers.

13. The same paper of the 8th July 1903 remarks that the complaint is general that British soldiers are so many angels of death to the people of India. Indeed, what enormity is there which they do not commit on the latter ? Government has done its utmost to put down the evil, but nothing can move these sons of Mars. Whenever a Native happens to excite their anger he is at once despatched. Last year certain soldiers at Sialkot killed a poor native and their comrades would not divulge their identity. Another

has recently caused the death of a punkha coolie, while one at Meerut has murdered a coachman. In other words, two murders have been committed in a few days. What thoughts this has engendered in the people's minds it is difficult to guess. The Commander-in-Chief has issued a General Order intended to make British soldiers behave themselves. This, however, is wholly insufficient to induce them to mend their ways: severe punishment alone can bring about the desired result.

Transfers among Patwaris.

14. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th July 1903, publishes a communication the writer of which remarks that like other officials Patwaris should also be transferred periodically. It is satisfactory that the question has been taken up by the Native Press, and that a translation of some of the *Sialkot Paper's* notes on the subject has been published recently by the *Civil and Military Gazette*. Rai Arjan Das, Revenue Officer, Sialkot, has taken the lead in the matter by transferring some Patwaris from the tahsil of Pasrur. The correspondent is of opinion that Patwaris should not be posted to their places of birth, nor should they be allowed to stay at any station for very long periods. He attaches no weight to the argument that transfers among the said officials will subject them to inconvenience, remarking that the same objection can be urged on behalf of other public servants.

Kashmiri Muhammadans and Military service.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th July 1903, writing about the eligibility of Kashmiri Muhammadans for admission into the army, publishes remarks similar to those made by the *Gulzar-i-Hind* (*vide* paragraph 19 of Selections No. 28).

Social intercourse between Native and European women.

16. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 11th July 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer, in continuation of her previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 16 of Selections No. 27), says that the object with which native women seek the friendship of their European sisters can also be attained by a freer intercourse among the former themselves. The difficulty, however, is that the population of India is not only divided into thousands of sects, but the latter are inimically disposed towards one another. The members of each sect are so bigoted that it is impossible for them to have the least regard or love for persons outside their own small circle. The Muhammadans came to India in 1001 A. D., but today they and the Hindus stand as far apart as Natives and Englishmen, although the two communities do not regard each other with the feelings of contempt which their present rulers have for the children of the soil. Nature has brought the Hindus and Mussalmans as close together as she can, but of themselves they have done absolutely nothing to unite. The writer then goes on to say that European women do not treat their native sisters in a considerate manner and that a union between the two is extremely difficult. The majority of Native Christians are assuredly drawn from the lower classes, but the Missionaries from England or America also belong to a similar stratum of society. When Native women are not ashamed of meeting Missionary ladies, why should they be averse to mixing with their sisters who have embraced Christianity.

Commenting on the above the Editor remarks that Native ladies know from what classes Native Christian women come. They know nothing about the social position of Missionary ladies, and have consequently no objection to meet the foreigners. No well-connected Native female will meet a *Mem*, who is known for certain to be of menial birth. Besides, the fact of European Missionaries being low-born cannot raise the social position of Native Christians.

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 30.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th July 1903, remarks that the Sultan's recent *farman* about subscriptions to the Hedjaz Railway Fund will serve the purpose of a reminder to the Prophet's followers to do their duty by the proposed Railway. Indeed, it has already fired the enthusiasm of Egyptian Muhammadans, who have been holding weekly meetings to collect money for the work. The *farman* may be relied upon to evoke similar feelings in this country also. It has stirred up the leading Mussalman residents of Bombay, many of whom are appealing to their co-religionists through the Press to subscribe liberally towards the Fund. A certain gentleman has made the suggestion that the charitable funds, amounting to lakhs of rupees, at the disposal of the various Islamic sects in the country should be devoted to the Railway.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, is very gratified to see that not a few Muhammadan women have commenced collecting subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway. If every female follower of the Prophet were to exert herself she would be able to induce many to give money for the Railway. Some time back it was pointed out in the *Tahzib-i-Niswan* that even very poor women could help the movement by subscribing the price of a meal. There is, however, no reason why other women should not do the same and thereby help to swell the Hedjaz Railway Fund. The Editor takes the lead by subscribing Rs. 1-8-0, the estimated price of her morning meal, and exhorts others to follow the example.

The same.

3. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	695	1	0
Small subscriptions	11	5	0
Total ...	706	6	0

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 20th and 27th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,816	2	11
Small subscriptions	...	30	2	0
Total	...	14,846	4	11

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 24th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 17th July 1903	...	200	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	39	0	0
Total	...	239	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,237	1	7

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	1,856	13	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	123	14	0
Total	...	1,980	11	9

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), publishes articles in its issues of the 23rd and 25th July 1903, in which, after stigmatising the arrangement by which India will be required to bear a share of the cost of the reserve of 25,000 British troops maintained in South Africa as "an iniquitous proposal." The following remarks are made :—

The proposal to charge to India a part of the cost of the reserve of 25,000 British troops maintained in South Africa.

"The truth is that England has to keep a fairly large army in South Africa in order to garrison that country efficiently. But the Ministers are anxious to keep the military expenditure of the new Colonies within proper limits. They know very well that they will lose many votes in the next General Election if they do not show the British public that they have done their very best to keep down military expenditure in the South African Colonies as much as possible. What is easier than to make India pay for a good part of the cost of troops kept in reality for South Africa? In this case there are no votes to lose. The poor helpless tax-payer in India is not to be thought of. He is of no consequence to men whose only care is for votes and the retention of the offices they hold."

* * * * *

"It is quite wrong to imagine that in case of an emergency the supply of 25,000 white troops to India from South Africa would afford substantial help. We are of opinion that on such an occasion the Government of India would have to count in the main upon the people of this country, who are sure to rally in large numbers to the defence of their mother land. The martial races of this country, who now constitute the flower of His Majesty's Indian Army, could afford recruits innumerable for the regiments that would have to be raised temporarily. It is upon these regiments that the Government of India will have chiefly, if not wholly, to count. We have often had occasion to state in these columns that the fear of a Russian invasion of India is a very remote one. This fear has cost this poor country quite a mint of money. Large sums of money have been paid to the Ameer of Afghanistan, and the result is that for purposes of offence and defence Afghanistan is to-day ten times stronger than it was in 1876 or 1880. It is futile ever to count upon a friendly Afghanistan, and we do not think that the Government of India have ever thought of assistance from that country on the occasion of an emergency. Crores of rupees have been spent in erecting frontier railways and fortifications the utility of which is at best but problematical. It is over 25 years since the bugbear of a Russian invasion of this country was first started and gained considerable credence among men high up in the counsels of the Government, and at no time during this long period was it ever apparent or likely that the fear was about to be justified. We do not therefore concede the position that India will be threatened with foreign aggression, and that its army would prove insufficient successfully to repel the aggressor.

* * * * *

"The *Englishman* of Calcutta pertinently asks:—'If we are to pay for troops in South Africa, why should we not pay for troops in Australia, or Canada, or in Sokoto for the matter of that? If India were in serious danger, doubtless all these parts of the Empire would be indented on. Why should we not be asked to pay for the troops at home? In 1857 they were brought out to quell the Mutiny.' Indeed, the proposal is so absurd that it could not have been expected to emanate from anybody else than a Ministry who are in a rapidly advancing stage of senility and decay, and who are like drivelling dotards lost to all sense of decency and shame."

8. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 29th July 1903 :—

The same.

"The opposition which Mr. Brodrick's scheme of burdening India with a fresh Military expenditure to be incurred on a garrison of 25,000 men proposed to be placed in South Africa is gaining in strength and volume in the country. All the leading organs of all shades of public opinion have denounced the proposal of the Secretary for War as most unjust and scandalous. The Military expenditure of the Indian Government absorbs a greater part of the revenue and leaves little margin for the most urgent reforms in the civil administration of the country, for instance the separation of the Judicial and the Executive, which are hanging fire. To this already heavy expenditure is added an extra £786,000 a year, which India will have to pay from April next as a result of the award of Lord Alverstone, regarding the British soldier's extra 6d. Now to this enormous sum of £786,000 Mr. Brodrick proposes to add £4,000,000 more for the white soldiers to be garrisoned in South Africa. So the Indian Exchequer is to be mulcted in a total of £1,186,000 yearly, over and above the heavy expenditure that on account of the decision of the Welby Commission was recently imposed on this country. This in all conscience is sickening enough, as an instance of the 'melancholy meanness' of which the Unionist Ministry has, on more occasions than one, given such palpable proofs. If it is proposed to make India a milch-cow, why make use of arguments which the wolf in the Æsop's Fables made use of to the lamb? We are given to understand that these troops to be stationed in South Africa will be available for the defence of the frontiers of India if any such emergency happened. As if the troops garrisoned in India are not already more than the

needs of the country! For the last fifty years there has happened no such emergency in India as to have necessitated its calling the help of the troops from outside. On the contrary, India has been supplying troops to fight Britain's battles outside its borders, for instance in China, South Africa and Somaliland. This is a proof positive of the fact that India maintains an army which is more than it requires. What makes the recent proposal of Mr. Brodrick more galling to Indians is that they are required to maintain a white garrision in a part of the Empire where the condition of Indians is worse than that of helots. Indians have no voice in the executive of the country, and that is why proposals like the present one are sprung and carried without the least regard to the feelings and wishes of the people. India has never grudged any expense which is equitable and just; she has always taken a fair share in the imperial responsibilities. Do not in the name of Heaven burden her with fresh expenses to an extent that the future historian may have to write an epitaph that 'India was bled to death by the stupid doctoring of a Ministry which was wedded to the doctrine of spreadeaglism with a vengeance!'"

The same.

9. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th July 1903, remarks that it is proposed to charge to the revenues of India a part of the cost of the maintenance of 25,000 British soldiers in South Africa. From the standpoint of India, this addition to her military expenditure is wholly uncalled for, seeing that she can fully defend herself. The British forces permanently located in the country are more than sufficient for her ordinary requirements, nay, now and then they fight Britain's battles even in foreign lands. It was with the help of Indian troops that Natal was saved in the beginning of the Boer War, while they were despatched to China also for service during the Boxer rising. The garrison in South Africa, then, will serve an Imperial purpose, and consequently the entire cost of its maintenance should be borne by the British Exchequer. It is, however, to be feared that, having regard to the point from which Mr. Brodrick views the question, the arguments on behalf of India have not much chance of being listened to.

Lord Curzon's extension.

10. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, writes as follows on the subject of Lord Curzon's extension:—

"What has for months been a hope deferred is at last approaching fulfilment. The announcement as made by the *Times* that Lord Curzon will be given an option of two years for the extension of his office will be hailed with great satisfaction all over the country. Indian public opinion, barring one or two fire-eaters in the Bengali press, has been unanimously in favour of extension being granted to His Excellency Lord Curzon. Indeed it would have been great injustice to India had a Viceroy, who has done so much in sinking deeper the foundations of England's rule in this country by beginning to purify its administration, been snatched away from it in the middle of his work. The authorities in England are well-advised to give an option to Lord Curzon for extending his term of office; and we feel confident that Lord Curzon's love for India is too great to prevent him from availing himself of the offer, in view of some personal advantages, that His Excellency may, in the present condition of his party, be able to derive by starting for England earlier. Indeed Lord Curzon's whole reputation is at stake in the work of reform he has inaugurated in this country. And if he were to leave it half done his reputation has as much to suffer as the interests of the people of India. During the five years of his reign India has enjoyed an era of great peace and considerable prosperity; and with the imaginative millions of his country this was due to Lord Curzon's good star. It is therefore a matter of national congratulation that India has to prosper under the influence of that star for two years more."

11. On the subject of the recent Sivaji celebration in Calcutta the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, writes as follows :—

The Sivaji celebration in Calcutta.

"But for the fact that their physical courage bears an inverse ratio to their clamorous tongue, there was some cause for alarm at the manner in which the memory of the Mahratta warrior is celebrated by the natives of Bengal. As it is, one can now well afford to mock at the blustering rant, for which Mr. Surrendranath Banerji becomes periodically in the throes of travail, and of which he made a clean breast the other day as President of the second anniversary of the Sivaji celebration. For it is certain, the coat with which this great oratorical feat is associated will, on reaching the house, be hanged on the peg and will not be thought of any more till another year comes. Not more than a century and half ago a cold shudder ran over the Bengali at the very name of the Mahratta. One thousand and one blessings be on the *Pax Britannica*, which gave the lamb courage enough to propose terms of friendship to the lion. Remove for a while the British bayonet, under the cool shadow of which the lamb has become so fat and fearless, and it will at once begin to chime some other music. With all his astuteness, the patriotic President made a mistake of fact in declaring that there was not an 'atom of disloyalty' in the movement. For this is apt to be misunderstood by those who do not know that so long as the movement is confined to Bengal, its being innocuous in the physical sense is assured. But the word 'disloyalty' has a wider meaning than 'a menace to the constituted authorities of the land.' It has as much reference to feelings as it has to actions; and it is as to the former that an assurance was needed from Mr. Banerji, while 'orating' on the deeds of prowess of the hero, who invited his countrymen 'to unite for the defence of their country against the common enemy from the North' *i.e.* the Muhammadans. Was Mr. Banerji now playing the modern Sivaji to invite his countrymen to band themselves together against another 'enemy' from some other direction? Unless it were so the demonstration, proceeding as it does from a people who have no cause to be grateful to Sivaji, can have no meaning. Its unnaturalness is palpable, and the veil of constitutionalism thrown over it may cover, but is too thin to conceal, it. What makes it more unnatural is an indirect invitation to Muhammadans to join it; for we are told the 'remarkable fact' that Sivaji's 'Commander-in-Chief was a Muhammadan sailor who enjoyed his unstinted confidence. Where is the Muhammadan soldier or sailor who enjoys to a similar degree the confidence of the present rulers of India?' Well may the Muhammadans exclaim with Carlyle, 'Leave us alone of your guidance; such light is darker than darkness!'"

12. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 22nd July 1893, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 6, Selections No. 26), observes that continued drought is undoubtedly one of the causes of the poverty of India. It is, however, an egregious mistake to hold it entirely responsible for the evil. Natives' aversion to emigration has also contributed to bring about the present state of affairs, but the official classes advance this argument merely to absolve Government of all responsibility for the poverty of India. Again, Lords Dufferin and Elgin, who laid the greatest stress on the argument, do not seem to have referred to it from a regard for the welfare of India. That this is so is clear from the fact that they did absolutely nothing to facilitate emigration from the country. The people who would emigrate are so poor that it is preposterous to expect them to do so at their own expense. Besides, is the treatment accorded to Natives in Australia, Natal and the Transvaal, which has failed to move Government to action, calculated to encourage them to leave their country? In these circumstances how can

Poverty of India.

Government dilate on the people's aversion to emigration? This aversion is certainly one of the causes of Indian poverty, but it is the creation of Government alone.

Government and the people.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th July 1903, writing about the expulsion of a *Times* correspondent from Russia, says that every British subject in India is perfectly free to criticise any official measure and act. The liberty and peace enjoyed by natives under the present *regime* does not fall to the lot of the residents of even the most civilized countries outside the British empire. The former should be thankful to Government and pray for long life and prosperity to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

The National Congress.

14. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 17th July 1903, publishes a communication the writer of which, in continuation of his previous remarks (paragraph 3 of Selections No. 28), says that one of the chief objections raised against the National Congress is that some of the proposals of that body are subversive of British rule in India. For example, the most important demand of the Congress is that natives also should be appointed to higher posts in the various departments of the public service, the claim being based on an Act of Parliament passed in 1833 and on Her late Majesty's Proclamation of 1858. At the same time the Congressmen admit that British rule in India is indispensable, which is quite true. This, however, can only mean that the administration of the country should be in the hands of English Officers, whose appointment, dismissal, &c., should rest with the King-Emperor and the British Nation and Parliament. The question now arises, what are the posts to which the appointment of the above officers is essential? Apparently they consist of those of Viceroy, Commander-in-Chief, Governors of Bombay and Madras, Lieutenant-Governors and Chief Commissioners, and Provincial Commandants of troops. On reflection, however, it will appear that there are a number of other appointments which ought to be filled by Englishmen alone. The incumbents of the posts enumerated above can exercise only superficial control over the administration, the real administrators consisting of the Secretaries to the Viceroy, &c., Commissioners, Deputy Commissioners, Commandants of districts and regiments, higher Police and District Officers. The writer concludes by promising to resume his remarks at some future time.

Government and Kashmir.

15. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, remarks that signs are not wanting to show that at least some very important question affecting the administration of Kashmir is pending between Government and the Maharaja.

Deposition of the Raja of Bhilka.

16. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, refers to the circumstances connected with the recent deposition of the Raja of Bhilka (Kathiawar), and says that the Resolution containing the Government of India's decision prefers no specific charge against the deposed Chief. All that it says is that His Highness is incapable of managing the State, no reference

being made to the grounds on which this unfitness is established. A Calcutta paper says that if Indian Princes can be deposed in this summary manner Government had better annex all Native States. It adds that the privilege of defending himself enjoyed by the meanest British subject is denied to a Feudatory Chief. Several objections can undoubtedly be raised against the decision arrived at concerning the Raja, but what can this avail ? It is best to blame ill-luck for the occurrence, and regard Government as merely an instrument in the hands of fate.

Proposal to appoint a State Council for Nabha.

17. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, writing about the rumour that Government has decided to entrust the management of Nabha to a State Council, says that the step is not calculated to please an old and faithful feudatory Chief like the present ruler of the State. The Raja is well known for his peaceful policy and loyal sentiments ; and had the heir-apparent been given an opportunity of learning administrative work under His Highness he would have been certain to follow in his father's footsteps. As it is, the appointment of the proposed Council will deprive the Tika of the opportunity of qualifying himself for the duties which are ultimately to devolve upon him. It is to be hoped that Lord Curzon will reconsider his decision and at least consent to the young Prince being appointed to the post of Wazir.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

Acquittal of a British soldier charged with murdering a punkha coolie.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, reports that Private Cassidy of Sialkot, who recently murdered a punkha coolie and whose defence was that he committed the deed in a fit of insanity, has been acquitted by the Chief Court. He has been ordered to be kept in the Lunatic Asylum till such time as he recovers his reason. It is to be hoped that the good fortune which has stood him in good stead in the course of the trial will not desert him now, and that in a few days he will recover his reason.

The same.

19. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, writing on the same subject, quotes an extract from the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* to show how British soldiers manage to escape scot-free even when their guilt has been brought home to them.

The same.

20. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, writing on the same subject, states that a certain shrewd gentlemen is of opinion that the plea of insanity was perhaps invented in order to save the offender. It is difficult to decide as to the truth or otherwise of this opinion ; but there can be no doubt that if Private Cassidy is really mad there is method in his madness. At all events, his insanity has rescued a strong man like him—who can very easily release native coolies from the cares of this world—from the iron grip of the law. May his insanity prosper him, although it is to be feared that it is only temporary !

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

21. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 30th July 1903 :—

Security under the British Government.

"What with growing lawlessness, and the utter helplessness of the Police, coupled with the unconquerable apathy of the authorities, the posture of affairs in the Chingleput District of the benighted Presidency of Madras has been far from complimentary to British reputation and 'prestige' for the last two or three years. Our Madras contemporaries have cried themselves hoarse, but without the least effect on the powers that be; and since we last drew attention to the condition of the happy district under notice in support of some of our malicious remarks on the so-called security under the British Raj, the situation appears to have almost reached its climax and a regular panic has seized the rural population. Affairs at any rate have come to such a pass that the Chingleput District Conference, organised for the first time this year, felt called upon to discuss the question openly and seriously. Some members of the District Association formed themselves into a deputation and went about the district collecting information direct from the villages, and on the strength of these enquiries the Conference formulated a Resolution demanding the attention of the Government to the abnormal condition of affairs in the district. But the authorities are still as indifferent as ever, and the Inspector-General of Police, we learn, 'has just begun to feel the want of information regarding the various occurrences' and has applied to the District Association for the same, although the proceedings of the District Conference were specially watched by a police officer with a short-hand assistant on behalf of the Police! It appears the Inspector-General of Police has fairly astonished the public. The Association, however, is furnishing him with information. It seems from May of last year to the time of the Conference in June last, some twenty-five cases of dacoity occurred in the district of which over twenty took place in the Conjeeveram Taluq alone! The amount of property taken away was immense. The other day, when the Inspector-General of Police was just beginning to 'feel the want of information,' a gang of thirty dacoits made a torchlight procession to village Chinnivakam, six miles from Conjeeveram, and committed serious havoc. The Village Munsif was severely wounded and removed to hospital, where he 'gave a terrific account of the enormities committed by the lawless gang.' Armed robbers, incompetent Police, indifferent authorities *versus* a disarmed population. Security with a vengeance!"

22. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 22nd July 1903, remarks that it is an admitted fact that Civilians have long been pampering British soldiers. They always approve of the latter's acts, whether good or bad, and even go the length of affording all possible encouragement to soldiers charged with the commission of heinous offences. This false patriotism and misguided national love have resulted in *Goras* fearlessly murdering natives almost every day. Although such doings constitute a foul blot on the fair name of His Majesty's forces and the British nation, still the Civilians will not mend their ways under the mistaken impression that this would lessen the prestige of Government. Lord Kitchener, however, has had the foresight to discern that if British soldiers are not kept well in hand they will bring discredit on the army, and that their attempts to outrage native women may possibly create political complications. His Excellency has accordingly issued a General Order warning European soldiers in India to give up maltreating the people. Some time back Lord Curzon also took up the subject, but, being after all a Civilian, he could not have recourse to the rigour with which the soldiers in question should be treated. The Commander-in-Chief, however, is known for his strictness in enforcing his orders, and offending *Goras* will soon find that they are not

Behaviour of British soldiers in India.

wanted in His Majesty's Army. Again, as he himself is thrown into confusion at sight of a woman, Tommy Atkins, who is mortally fond of prostitutes, will learn to be cautions in treading the bazar of love. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that so long as soldiers can claim to be tried by juries they cannot be expected to improve.

Complaint in connection with the assessment of the income tax.

23. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, says that the reduction of the income tax is the most useful measure carried out by Lord Curzon and will earn His Excellency the everlasting gratitude of the people. It is to be regretted, however, that native assessing officers are injuring His Majesty's subjects by increasing Government's income from the tax. Those who should, according to the new rules, be exempted from the payment of the tax are being assessed at higher rates.

'The Failure of Lord Curzon."

24. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th July 1903, in reviewing a book entitled "The Failure of Lord Curzon," remarks that in his assertions the writer has overstepped the bounds of moderation. For example, he styles Lord Curzon the apostle of Jingoism in Asia, and accuses His Excellency of purposely concealing from the British public the actual number of deaths from the plague. The Viceroy has also been charged with harbouring a desire to foment a war somewhere for his own delectation. In short, the publication teems with statements calculated to please the opponents of his Lordship, but so wanting in truth as to bring a smile to the lips of an unbiassed critic. Nevertheless, it should be conceded that the facts over which the superstructure has been raised deserve the serious attention of public men in India. After quoting some extracts from the book, the Editor remarks that it would be interesting to know why it has been brought out at this particular time. It would appear that "Twenty-eight years in India" and those of his way of thinking wish to prevent Lord Curzon from getting an extension of office. The same view has come to be entertained in India of late, and recently the *Indian Mirror* of Calcutta wrote a strong note to the effect that His Lordship should go. The *Bengalee* also has expressed the same opinion, albeit couched in milder language. In a word, unlike their Anglo-Indian contemporaries, native newspapers are opposed to the present Viceroy's further stay in the country. These papers and the general public are very much exercised about the latest incident of his *regime*, *viz.*, the semi-official decision arrived at at Delhi regarding the exclusion of natives from even the few respectable posts open to them.

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[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The King in Ireland.

1. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 5th August 1903 :—

"The visit of His Majesty the King-Emperor to Ireland, interesting accounts of which have been reported from day to day, is full of significance and should be productive of valuable political results. Ireland has long been the home of a brave, independent, talented, but somewhat discontended, people, their very good qualities lending an impulse to their discontent, when they pondered over the fact that in rights and privileges they were so much behind their kinsmen in Great Britain, though in merits they were their equals. Among their grievances has been the want of a sufficient share of Royal favours, and while one can see the political difficulties in the way of Ireland being granted the privilege of Home Rule or a larger or a stronger voice in the affairs of the Empire, it is strange that British statesmanship hitherto refrained from applying to the malady of Irish discontent the comparatively cheap remedy of the sunshine of Royal smiles, for the Irish to bask in. His Majesty the King-Emperor has visited Ireland and, though a cold reception was apprehended from some quarters, has aroused as much enthusiasm among the people of Ireland in favour of the British Crown as would have been possible in the case of any other class of his subjects. The telegraphic accounts of loyal addresses contrast sharply with the churlish resolution of a civic body to present no address to His Majesty announced before the visit, and now it seems that His Majesty's visit will leave a lasting impression on the people. If the visit is renewed, as His Majesty declared in replying to the address at Queenstown, that he intended to do, it would go to confirm the impression now produced. Copies of the King's message to the Irish people will be posted in every town and village throughout Ireland."

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st July 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 24th July 1903	...	239	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	140	6	0
Total	...	379	9	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
Grand Total	...	11,377	7	7

(*b*)—*Home.*

3. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 5th August 1903, continuing its remarks regarding Lord Curzon's extension of office (*vide* paragraph 10. of Selections No. 30), writes as follows :—

Lord Curzon's extension of office.

"The announcement by His Excellency the Viceroy at the Legislative Council yesterday that he had decided to accept the offer of His Majesty's Government for an extention of his office, with permission to take an interim vacation in England next year, will be hailed with the greatest pleasure all over India. By his deep sympathy with this country and its people, by his tender and considerate regard for Oriental characteristics, and, above all, by his untiring energy and his great powers of arduous work, Lord Curzon has won a wide popularity, which, with one or two exceptions, beats the record of the long line of his distinguished predecessors. His even-handed justice in cases in which there were any indications of aggression on the part of Europeans against Indians and the open mind with which he received criticisms and suggestions from the Indian press, succeeded in extorting admiration and well-deserved praise even from his detractors in the Bengali press, who occasionally gave it him very hot over some of his official measures. * * *"

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th August 1903, writes as follows on the same subject :—

The same.

"In view of the fact that the alternative to an extension of Lord Curzon's term would be the infliction upon this unhappy country of a Mr. Brodrick or some other worthy of his school of politicians, we believe no sane Indian would regret the prospect of another couple of years of the Curzonian *regime*. Indeed, if only as an experiment to see how our present Viceroy pulls out the many irons he has got in the fire, the extention is worth giving a fair trial."

In its issue of the 8th August this paper goes on as follows :—

"We believe that none but a few extremists in the Press will be sorry at the announcement made by Lord Curzon at Tuesday's meeting at Simla that he has made up his mind to accept the extension of his term of Indian Office of which he was given the choice. We have never concealed our regret that in certain respects the policy followed in His Excellency's *regime* has been the source of much disappointment to the people and in others of heart-burning; but withal we have held the belief that the vigour, enthusiasm, and earnestness he has infused into the dry bones of the Indian administration are things which cannot but make for good in the long run. It is not by single acts or pieces of policy that we should judge of an administration, but by its wholesale trend and general disposition. Judged by this standard the first idea that comes to the surface in connection with Lord Curzon's rule is that, if it has caused disappointments in certain minor cases, it has given rise to hopes in larger spheres the day of fulfilment for which is yet to come, and to carry which to fulfilment Lord Curzon is the most suitable man available at present to be placed at the helm of the State. As His Excellency said in his speech, five years may be a pretty long period in the life of an individual, "but it is all too short for a Government that has embarked upon wide and comprehensive schemes of reform, and that aspires to redress many evils and to communicate a fresh impetus to the strenuous organism of the Indian administration." The words quoted give an accurate description of Lord Curzon's own *regime*, and making even a most modest estimate of His Lordship's capacity as well as his work, it must be conceded that the man who has initiated such comprehensive schemes of reform, and who has actually communicated a new impetus to the administration, is a man far above the average of Viceroys that have come to India of late or may be expected to come in the near future.

"We think they make a mistake who contrast the present Viceroyalty with that of Lord Ripon. It is not necessary that every good and able Viceroy should be similar in all things to another, or that their spheres of work should be identical. Lord Ripon conferred an inestimable boon upon India, a boon which Lord Curzon's Government is

charged with having directly or indirectly helped to undermine. But Local Self-Government is not the only thing worth living for, and there are other aspects of Indian administration which in the present circumstances of the country need looking after—indeed, without reform in which the boon of Local Self-Government may not yield its most salutary results. Lord Curzon has overhauled the whole system of Indian administration, and if only he has quickened thought in all directions, and contributed to develop the sense of responsibility and self-respect among the educated classes, he has done no little good. Even some mistakes of his Government, as they are believed to be, have proved blessings in disguise. But for the report of the Universities' Commission there would have been little chance for a long time to have the Education question so completely threshed out as it has been, and the result of the discussion has been no less creditable to the Government, in the signs of yielding to educated public opinion which it has given, than to the educated classes in the account they have rendered of themselves. And, taking a broad view of the matter, both the Government and the country have reason to congratulate themselves that the Universities Commission was held. The same remark may be applied to the other schemes of reform of Lord Curzon. Lord Ripon was the ideal of a *ma bap* ruler, Lord Curzon has chosen the *rôle* of a monitor, but it is a *rôle* none the less useful though it may not appear so lenient. If the educated classes meet His Lordship half-way, and while insisting upon the fulfilment of his promises do their best to offer him help in a loyal spirit as was done in the case of the Universities' Commission Report, we think we may expect to see the development of a sounder policy in the Government of the country and a sounder state of public opinion in Native India such as would command respect that it never did before."

Cost of the Army in South Africa.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th July, the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th July, the *Koh-i-Nur* (Lahore), of the 28th July, the *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the same date, and the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 29th July, all write articles condemning as unjust the proposal to charge India with a share of the cost of maintaining 25,000 British troops in South Africa.

Munshi Aziz Ahmad on the deterioration of India.

6. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1903, publishes a communication from Munshi Aziz Ahmad of Glasgow, who has no objection to act as its correspondent and thereby serve his country. He is grieved to find that England, with a population of five millions, can dominate the 300 millions of India. Comparatively small countries like Belgium and Holland are much more powerful than the vast continent of India. If an Indian army under native officers were opposed to the armies of Belgium, Holland, Portugal or Switzerland, the former would undoubtedly have the worse of it. The day is not far off when even Nepal or Afghanistan will excel India in this respect. The writer points out that his remarks do not apply to the British soldier. Again, the Natives of India cannot compete with those other countries in arts and industries. Further, he laments the disappearance of the Royal houses of Lucknow and Delhi and prays for the permanency of the Asafia dynasty (the Nizam of Deccan), and expresses surprise that the latter should lag behind Travancore and Baroda. Writing about Morroco, he remarks that France and other Christian countries have turned their covetous eyes towards it. Morroco cannot count for help from Turkey or Afghanistan, whereas the Christian powers are always ready to help one another from motives of avarice. In short, all the Islamic powers are going down-hill. Turkey cannot expect any help from Egypt in the event of a war.

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

Sikhs and Sikhism.

7. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd July 1903, writing about the lectures delivered at Simla by Mr. Macauliffe, says that Sir Charles Rivaz was obliged to contradict certain misstatements made by Mr. Macauliffe in the course of his first lecture. At the second lecture Lord Kitchener lauded the Sikhs to the skies on the score of the services rendered by them in Chitral, Saragarhi and Somaliland, forgetting that other nationalities also took a part in those campaigns. His Lordship is welcome to praise the Sikhs as much as he likes. The Editor does not care to quarrel with him. He takes exception, however, to the speech read at the second meeting on behalf of the Raja of Nabha, which contained unworthy remarks about the Moghul rulers. This silly effusion (*dur afshani*) of the Raja should have been examined before it was allowed to be read. These were after all political meetings, and it was highly impolitic for the Lieutenant-Governor and the Commander-in-Chief to have taken part in them and allowed the feelings of a community, which forms a considerable portion of the population and which is represented by a large number of soldiers in the Indian Army, to be insulted. The spectacle of the Sikh Raja criticising the Moghul rulers of the country reminds the Editor of the Punjabi proverb* regarding the winnowing tray and the sieve. The Sikh Chief on hearing the praises of his co-religionists so far forgot himself as to lose sight of the fact that it was by a mere accident of circumstances (*waqiat ki ghalti*) that the Sikhs became the rulers of the Punjab. The injustice with which they ruled it has left an undelible blot on the page of history. Let the Raja ponder over the misdeeds of his co-religionists before finding fault with the Moghuls. Let him ask somebody to explain to him the meaning of the phrase "Sikha Shahi" (Sikh rule = misrule).

The same.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1903, writing on the same subject, says that Lord Kitchener notwithstanding his professing a different religion paid a high tribute of praise to Sikhism. The Raja of Nabha was also present and his speech was read for him by Mr. Risley. It bristled with such remarks about the Moghul rule as were calculated to injure the feelings of the Muhammadans. It is not politic, adds the Editor, to reopen old sores, thereby causing estrangement between the Hindu and Muhammadan fellow-subjects of his Majesty.

Sikhs and the prohibition of the flesh of kine.

9. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 23rd July, writing on the same subject, says that Mr. Macauliffe in the course of his lecture remarked that the Sikhs have adopted many Hindu usages, and among others the prohibition of the flesh of kine. The Editor in this connection calls upon the *Tat* sect of the Khalsa to furnish the public with their opinion on this subject. He then goes on to say that this sect, which consists of some 50 followers only, preaches that all kinds of flesh are allowable to the Sikhs except that which is unwholesome to eat. They should, however, bear in mind that one of the great missions of

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* The proverb referred to runs as follows :—

"A winnowing tray may speak, but a sieve that contains no less than nine hundred holes ought to hide its head in shame."

Guru Govind Singh's life was to abolish the slaughter of kine. In spite of Mr. Macauliffe's assertion, there are thousands of the Guru's followers with whom the preservation of the cow is an article of faith.

Golden Temple affairs.

10. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July 1903, states that several of the out-houses (*Bungas*) attached to the Golden Temple, Amritsar, intended to be used as rest-houses for visitors, have of late been tenanted by women of doubtful character and gamblers, &c. The travellers consequently who come to visit the Guru's city are obliged to hire *baithaks* in the neighbourhood, where they not infrequently run the risk of being looted. The Editor then calls upon the Manager to ask the proprietors of the *Bungas* in question to get them vacated, and in case they should decline to accede to his request, the Manager should have recourse to the Police and get the neighbourhood of the Golden Temple cleared of gamblers and women of lewd character.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

Complaint against Octroi officials of Amritsar.

11. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 24th July 1903, alleges that a local broker named Miva, who is hand in glove with the Refund Moharrir Nazar Ali, is in the habit of misappropriating refund money in collusion with octroi officials. Hikmatullah, Octroi Tahsildar, also goes shares with Miva, else why should the latter be allowed to visit the octroi office at all times without any check or hindrance in spite of the fact that he has no dealings with the department ? The Editor promises to revert to the subject at some future time.

(*d*)—*Education.*

Technical education in India.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, after explaining the advantages derived by the Germans from the establishment of Technical Colleges in Germany, gives a brief account of the progress made in technical education in Europe. The Editor then laments the absence of technical education in India, remarking that notwithstanding the pleasing promises of Lord Curzon, Government has not done anything in the way of helping the few technical institutions founded by private enterprise. The Hindus and Christians have made some provision for their co-religionists in this respect, but the Muhammadans who have the industry of the whole of India in their hands are indifferent to this matter. The Editor in conclusion calls upon the Muhammadans to shake off their lethargy and be up and doing.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

British soldiers and Natives.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, writing about the alleged outrage at Dum Dum, says that acts like this are not infrequently perpetrated by the so-called guardians of India, who have been recommended quite recently for an increase of pay. Indeed the wild freaks of the *Goras* are not confined to Dum Dum. Some half a dozen towns in Bengal have memorialised the Military authorities concerned complaining that soldiers forcibly enter their houses and plunder their fields. If the complaints are

well founded, what, asks the Editor, has become of Lord Kitchener's order? Every right-thinking person will subscribe to the view that so long as exemplary punishment is not meted out to these sons of Mars they will not cease to bring disgrace upon the Government and prove a source of vexation to the people.

The same.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th July 1903, writing on the same subject, endorses the *Pasia Akhbar's* view and suggests that Lord Kitchener's order can never have the desired result until the mischievous *Goras* are severely punished for its violation.

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 1st and 8th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	706	6	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	31	3	0
Total	...	737	9	0

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 31st July 1903	...	379	9	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	9	0
Total	...	385	2	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
Grand Total	...	11,383	0	7

The same.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th and 10th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,846	4	11
Small subscriptions	...	14	2	0
Total	...	14,860	6	11

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon's extension of office.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th August 1903, after quoting "contemporary opinion" on the subject of Lord Curzon's extension, writes as follows :—

"The fact is, the situation in India at the present moment is peculiar, and Lord Curzon is partly a creator and partly a creature of the situation. Whatever his shortcomings, there is not another English politician available for India whom any responsible person would consider as fit now to take his place. It is curious that none of his critics suggest a suitable successor, and this is a serious omission. Responsible politicians should not remain satisfied with simply condemning a man, but should point to a better substitute. Destructive criticism is easy to offer, but it is of little practical value. Many people are apt to forget that the question at issue is not whether Lord Curzon's rule has been a success, but whether a better successor is available at the present moment. Surely, Indians cannot expect a Sir Henry Cotton or a Sir William Wedderburn to come as their Governor-General, and they ought to consider themselves happy that they have in Lord Curzon a protection against the infliction of a Mr. Brodrick or some other politician of the present school of Unionist mediocrities and opportunity-mongers."

Continuing its remarks in its issue of the 13th August, this paper says :—

"We have not been behind our contemporaries in voicing the disappointment and heart-burning which has been caused among our educated community by some of Lord Curzon's measures, but we think it hardly just to lay the entire blame of these measures on His Lordship's head. These measures are the outcome of a policy which has been maturing in the Council of the Governor-General for years past, indeed, since Lord Dufferin's time. The policy of distributing official patronage by races and creeds is by no means Lord Curzon's own; only his energy has brought matters to a head, and he has helped to open a sore which in its concealed state was more harmful and less amenable to treatment than now that it has been exposed to the public view. But without stopping to trace the history of the development of the Imperialistic policy in the Government of India, and after apportioning to Lord Curzon his due share of blame for his part in it, we will for the present touch upon a few things which prove that the present Viceroy, if he has disappointed the educated Indian, has been the poor Indian's friend. The ill-treated clerk has found in him a protector, to the famine-striken ryot he has come as a saviour, and to the victim of the British soldier's brutality he has stood up as a veritable *má báp*. The cry of the Indian patriot is the cry of the poor suffering millions, and if there be any sincerity in the cry it should not fail to bless the man who organised the gigantic famine relief measures of 1900-01, and who in the face of the open hostility of his own countrymen of all grades has declared that the dastardly conduct of British soldiers in making light of the lives of poor defenceless natives shall no longer be tolerated. We do not feel the slightest hesitation in saying that never before in the history of British India was greater value placed upon the life of the poor Indian, as a Government policy, than it has been during Lord Curzon's *regime*, and by virtue of his high courage and strong sense of duty. It is no ordinary benefactor of the poor Indian who has braved the displeasure of the entire body of his countrymen, from the highest to the lowest, both Civil and Military, in order to give protection to poor Karim Bakhsh or Karam Singh against the brutalities of Tommy Atkins, and has set in motion the whole Executive as well as Judicial machinery of the country with that view. We repeat that never in recent times was the poor Indian's life more an object of anxious care to the Government than it has been during Lord Curzon's *regime* as a result of His Excellency's personal efforts and example; and we cannot but think that all sentiment must have been dried out of the educated Indian's breast by his dry and calculating politics who cannot see that HERE IS A MAN

who means his country well, whatever may be his shortcomings resulting from an alien birth and training under traditions and circumstances which have placed the interests of England and India on antagonist planes. * * * *"

5. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 12th August 1903, writes as follows :—

The same.

"The extension of the term of Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty will be hailed with delight throughout the length and breadth of India. None can deny that Lord Curzon is the most zealous and hardworking of Viceroys that have ever occupied the Viceregal chair in India. He has touched all the weak points in the administration of a vast continent like India. His tenure of the last five years has been a tenure of commissions and enquiries. It would have been unwise to withdraw the hand from the wheel when most of the schemes were nearing completion. We congratulate the Indian people on this their happy fortune and wish a brilliant career of success to our Viceroy in the recent prolongation of his term."

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, says that India had not got over the surprise caused by Lord Alverstone's decision to charge it with 1¼ crores of rupees per annum on account of the increased pay of British soldiers, when the War Secretary astounded it with the still more preposterous proposal to saddle the Indian Exchequer with a portion of the cost of the South African garrison. The absurdity of Mr. Brodrick's logic is apparent on the face of it. It has been decided to keep 25,000 men at South Africa to be available in India in an emergency. But has India ever stood in need of help from outside ? On the contrary, her troops have been repeatedly requisitioned for Imperial purposes abroad. It is manifest therefore that the Indian Army already exceeds the needs of the country. After quoting the *Pioneer* in support of his contention, the Editor goes on to say that this is an excellent opportunity for Lord Curzon to show his hand. The proposal to saddle India with further military expenditure should be strenuously resisted. Educated natives should hold meetings of protest all over India against Mr. Brodrick's scheme.

The cost of troops in South Africa.

7. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st August 1903, observes that this down-trodden country, which is already overburdened with taxes and military expenditure, will be simply crushed if it is made to bear a portion of the cost of the South African reserve. Mr. Brodrick, seeing that his proposal has evoked bitter opposition, has hit upon the expedient of throwing the burden on India under the pretext that in times of emergency India will be able to count on these troops. The Duke of Devonshire in the course of a debate on the subject stated that Government intended to raise the strength of the army in India, but that it had been deemed advisable to station the additional troops in Africa, charging India with a portion of their cost only. The Editor is, however, unable to endorse this view. Since 1857 no such emergency has arisen. The British troops already in the country are more than sufficient. India, whose life-blood has been sucked by successive famines, cannot bear any extra burden. Neither the fear of a foreign invasion nor internal dissensions justify such a proposal. If South Africa requires additional

The same.

troops it should, like India, bear the whole cost itself. Indians are not allowed to enter Africa, and measures are being adopted to expel those permanently residing there, but, strangely enough, the Indian Exchequer is called upon to contribute its quota for the protection of the African Colony.

"The Failure of Lord Curzon."

8. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd July 1903, in the course of a long article, says that the charges preferred against the Viceroy in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* are not peculiar in their nature since they can be made with the same force against every other Governor-General. That newspaper is of opinion that natives should feel obliged to the author of "The Failure of Lord Curzon" for laying bare some of the crying abuses of the Government. The Editor, however, does not endorse these views. He is of opinion that India never had so intelligent and wise a Viceroy as Lord Curzon. In support of this he cites a few instances of His Excellency's justice and foresightedness. As to the inability of the Government to relieve its famine-stricken people, the Editor holds them excusable so long as the native gentry and *Raises* fail to lend a helping hand.

The cause of India's miserable plight.

9. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, publishes a cartoon with a view to show that disunion is at the bottom of all the evils that India is suffering from.

India and the various calls upon her purse.

10. The same paper remarks that it is difficult to find a parallel for Indian open-mindedness and generosity. The liberal response which various subscriptions open by men of different castes and nationalities meet with in this country may well be compared with heavenly blessings which are not confined to any particular person or place. It is to be regretted, however, that while India is always ready to display active sympathy with people in their hour of need, she receives nothing in return from any quarter of the globe in times of distress. In the circumstances it would not be wrong to attribute her ever-growing poverty to the numerous calls made on the people for subscriptions. Would it not be rendering a great service to both Government and the people to save India from these ?

Sivaji celebrations.

11. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 7th August 1903, quotes a paragraph from the *Hindustani* to the effect that in the Deccan the Sivaji celebrations have been held annually for a long time past. Sivaji, a national hero of the Deccan, by his military skill placed the reins of the Indian Empire in the hands of the Mahrattas, who, however, could not maintain their position owing to their mutual jealousies. It has been considered an anomaly in certain quarters to celebrate the anniversary of a Deccan hero in Bengal. The *Pioneer* insinuates that the movement is not without some significance. The Editor, however, does not share its misgivings, and looks on these meetings merely as a means of giving expression to feelings of admiration for the great hero ; but he thinks it inexpedient to celebrate the anniversary outside the hero's native country. Granting that the magnanimous and

generous Sivaji protected the Hindus from their oppressors and that English historians have done him gross injustice by charging him with being a dacoit, there can be no denying the fact that the movement instead of doing any immediate good will arouse the suspicion of the authorities. He concludes by remarking that the status of a country cannot be raised by singing the praises of its heroes, inasmuch as no nation can hope to rise unless it learns to stand on its legs.

The policy of "Annexation by Lease."

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, says that Lord Curzon has inaugurated a new policy which may very aptly be designated the "Policy of Annexation by Lease." The Editor then goes on to say that the story of the Berars was not a year old when news arrived from a different quarter of the Empire to the effect that the Government of India had secured another annexation by obtaining from the Khan of Kalat a perpetual lease of two strips of territory of the total area of about 750 square miles. The Editor ironically remarks that it is worthy of note that hitherto the Muhammadan rulers alone, whose intelligence cannot be impugned for a moment, have been benefited by the new policy.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Habibia College, Kabul.

13. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1903, writing about the Habibia College, Kabul, says that it would like to know whether the introduction of English education into Kabul is in agreement with the instructions left by Abdur Rahman. If not, why should Habibulla be reluctant to initiate other more important reforms? It is difficult to understand why the Amir, who suffers Russian spies to visit his capital and allows Russian trade to gain a footing in Afghanistan—an attitude plainly hostile to British interests—should be so anxious to provide English education for the Afghans, who do not seem to be in want of it. There may be some political secret underlying the scheme aforesaid which will transpire in due course.

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

Mr. Macauliffe on Sikhism.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, says that Mr. Macauliffe recently delivered two lectures at Simla on Sikhism, the importance of which was enhanced very much by the fact of His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor of the Punjab and the Commander-in-Chief, Lord Kitchener, having acted as Presidents. It is to be regretted, however, that expressions calculated to injure the feelings of both Hindus and Muhammadans were allowed to be used at these semi-official meetings. For instance, on the second day, when Lord Kitchener was in the chair, the Raja of Nabha, while drawing a comparison between the British and the Moghal rules, used the following expressions in his speech: "..... What a vast difference between these times of peace and the old times of tyranny and overruling the feelings of others, when the Hindus were converted to Islam by force ....." It is natural for the Muhammadans to resent these unjust remarks, especially when made at a meeting which was almost an official one in its character. The worst of it is that they emanated from a Sikh Chief who rules over

Muhammadans also. Again, Mr. Macauliffe in his first lecture hurt the feelings of the Hindus by remarking that the Sikhs have adopted many Hinduu sages, and among them the prohibition of the flesh of kine. His remarks are tantamount to openly exhorting the Sikhs to use forbidden flesh, and have offended the entire educated community of the Hindus. In the opinion of the Editor whoever creates ill-feeling between the Hindus and Muhammadans should be regarded as an enemy of India. He adds that the expressions quoted above have acquired the importance of an official utterance from the fact of their having been made in the presence of Sir Charles Rivaz and Lord Kitchener.

The National Congress.

15. The following appears in the *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th August 1903, a paper owned and edited by a Hindu :—

"The Congresswallahs have at last realized the necessity of doing something substantial instead of passing resolutions amid the cheers and applause of the "advanced liberal party." The mere passing of resolutions "unanimously" has nothing in it that should elicit the admiration of the general public for the self-imposed laborious task of the so-called leaders of public thought.

"The Industrial Exhibition, that has also become one of the features of the Congress, is bound to be a success, supported as it is by the rulers of the land. Besides, this is one of the most urgent needs of the country, inasmuch as it fosters native industries and gives an impetus to trade in home-made goods.

"An objection that is generally raised is that the Indian National Congress is not a representative body, and that its voice is not the voice of the millions. Certainly the objection is worth considering. The uneducated masses know nothing about the aims of the Congress,—what to speak of their forming an opinion about the political questions of the day.

"Every half-educated babu jumps up on the Congress platform, knocks the table with his first, makes faces, coughs, pretends to laugh, to weep, and then at last takes his seat amid the deafening cheers of University-machine-made babu crowd. As soon as he gets out of the Congress Pandal, forgets everything he had been so clamorous about a little while ago. Well, he has played his part, *viz.*, speaking so loud that the audience could hear him. That is all. No practical work required. *Shabash !*—That indeed is a true and noble sacrifice. These men want to hold the reins of government though a cat may frighten them. These men want to rule the Empire though they may not be able to rule themselves. They will not try to raise themselves but will go on blaming others for their own deficiencies. A happy method of "political agitation" indeed. One cannot deny, nevertheless, that there are some noble exceptions and that they are very capable men and can compete with any Englishman in intellectual abilities.

"The Congress meets this year in Madras, and let us see what better results does it bring about than its former 18 predecessors."

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Suggestion that no notice should be taken of anonymous communications.

16. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th July 1903, states that it has already urged that Government should instruct its officials by means of a circular letter not to take any notice of anonymous communications addressed to them. Respectable persons are often disgraced on the strength of such letters, while not infrequently it transpires, on enquiry, that such complaints are the result of personal animosity. In short, the practice is calculated to do much harm and involve innocent persons in trouble.

17. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th August 1903, commenting on the "brutal behaviour" of two British soldiers who, it alleges, recently assaulted some Native passengers on a Delhi-Kalka train and insulted their women, urges the authorities to enlighten the public as to what notice has been taken of the conduct of the soldiers, and says :—

Assaults by Europeans on Natives.

"There can be no greater mistake on the part of the authorities than to preserve the usual attitude of god-like aloofness and "above-ness" in cases like this, when the whole country is athirst for a single drop of sympathy, for the smallest sign showing that to the Sirkar the mental agony of 300 million natives is not of less account than the prestige of a few black sheep among the British soldiery. (!)

"We wish we could make our rulers realise how such cowardly outrages are burnt into the brains of our people, so that they are never effaced from memory. There were half a dozen gentlemen and two ladies in the compartment into which the *Goras* burst and behaved like beings from the nether regions. The gentleman escorting the terror-struck ladies is a Government servant employed in the Supply and Transport Department. His head and face were cut open with firsts because he threw himself between the human beasts and their prey. There was a well-known contractor, and also, we believe, an Honorary Magistrate in the same carriage. Could they not have thrown the drunken savages in King's uniform out of the window? Why did they then only scream for help like a parcel of old women? Because they knew that justice as between Europeans and Indians was literally blind in this country. If the *Goras* killed them they would be either let off—by some fluke of the law—and provided with a free passage home, or at the most given some nominal punishment which would excite the Anglo-Indian community and Press into a frenzy of indignation. Lord Curzon may have done nothing for us during his eventful reign, but he has won the hearts of our people because he stood up for justice, in the face of the insensate and indignant clamour of his own countrymen here, when a native was foully murdered by a soldier or several soldiers. Every Englishman, who is true to his instincts, will understand how the blood of the six Punjabis must have boiled at the sight of the insulting antics of the soldiers in front of the two ladies with them, and how superhuman was the self-restraint they (the Punjabis) exercised in not acting according to their natural impulse. It is for the authorities to take their part and reassure the people by making them feel that their contentment and welfare is the supreme object of the Sirkar."

In connection with the order for the re-trial of Mr. Bain, the Silchar Tea-planter, the *Tribune* offers the following remarks :—

"* * * We can attribute this new solicitude on the part of Local Governments, for acting up to the principle of equal justice between Indians and Europeans, to the influence of Lord Curzon alone. Who does not know that before His Excellency's time there were cases, neither few nor infrequent, in which European offenders got off scot-free, to the consternation of the whole country, without the Government moving a little finger to repair the damaged reputation for impartiality of British Indian Courts of justice? It is only in Lord Curzon's *regime* that we observe with delighted surprise this phenomenon of Government showing itself determined to bring white offenders to book in spite of accommodating police, partial juries, confused Counsel, bewildered Judges, and Anglo-Indian indignation."

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—22-8-03—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 33.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 22nd August 1903.

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 33.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 22nd August 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Ill-treatment of Indians in the Transvaal.

1. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 12th August 1903, remarks that it had always been at a loss to understand why the civilized colonists in the Transvaal should treat Indian immigrants in the barbarous way they do. It was alleged that the latter's uncleanly habits were responsible for the evil, but no sane person could accept this explanation as satisfactory. The cat has been let out of the bag at last. The colonists have declared recently that they wish to keep the European blood in the Transvaal pure. This can only mean lest by marrying European women under pressure from these ladies Indian traders in that part of the world should destroy the purity of European blood there. But this is like interfering with the liberty of the female population of the Transvaal. Besides, the object in view could have been gained simply by passing a law forbidding intermarrying between Europeans and Indians.

The same.

2. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th August 1903, reprints from the *Bengalee* a paragraph enumerating the hardships to which Indian immigrants in the Transvaal are subjected under the present *regime*. The Editor does not think it advisable to comment on these hardships, for this can serve no useful purpose and can only create bad blood. How were the said immigrants to know that they would have to face greater difficulties under British rulers? They were dissatisfied with the Boer *regime* and wished to escape it, but they have realised their mistake now.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, says that before subscribing towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund the Muhammadans should consult the teachings of the Quran and the Prophet's injunction bearing on the subject. Again, they should first look to their own needs and those of their kinsfolk and neighbours. As to the Hedjaz Railway Scheme, there is very little hope of its ever coming to a successful issue. And even if this were likely, why should Indian Musalmans go out of their way to give money for the project. It is of a piece with other commercial enterprises and should be considered in that light. It will not carry pilgrims to Mecca for nothing, which alone could have entitled it to the charity of the Prophet's followers throughout the world.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st July 1903, says that some two years back the Nizam enquired of the Government of India whether it was against the latter's wishes for subscriptions to be made towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund. Government replied in the negative; but in forwarding the reply to His Highness, Colonel Barr, the Resident, added that to the best of his knowledge the Railway was not likely to be constructed, and that consequently it was useless to give money for it. Later on as President of the local Victoria Memorial Fund Committee he decided that the money collected for the relief of the famine-stricken in the Hedjaz and deposited in the Treasury in the name of the Hedjaz Railway should be credited to the Victoria Memorial Fund. Quite recently one Maulvi Ghulam Muhammad, a Vakil at Raichor, applied that his shares (worth Rs. 1,000) in the Nizam's Railway should be transferred to the Hedjaz Railway, the profits being credited to the fund of the latter Railway. The Nizam's Government sanctioned the transfer, but the Resident declined to carry it into effect, repeating his remarks quoted above. It is not easy to account for his persistent opposition to the Hedjaz Railway or for his opinion that the project is likely to fall through, notwithstanding the fact that it has made considerable progress during the past two years. The Colonel should withdraw his opinion and thereby lay the Muhammadan public under a debt of gratitude.

The same.

5. The same paper, of the 14th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 7th August 1903 ...	...	385	2	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	47	0	0
Total	...	432	2	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,430	0	7

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	12,860	6	11
Small subscriptions	...	99	0	0
Total	...	*14,959	6	11

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st and 8th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	1,988	11	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	111	15	0
Total	...	2,100	10	9

* Of this sum Rs. 14,053-6-6 have already been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

(*b*)—*Home.*

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th August 1903, remarks that the proposal to charge to India half the cost of the maintenance of 25,000 British soldiers in South Africa has evoked universal opposition in this country. The Government of India has also sent a telegram to Lord George Hamilton protesting against the arrangement. There is therefore every hope that the Secretary for War will have to withdraw his suggestion with regret and shame, and that poor India will be spared another addition to her military expenditure.

Cost of the Reserve of troops in South Africa.

9. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 8th August 1903, also opposes the scheme and says that it is the political situation in South Africa which necessitates the presence of a British garrison there. India is never likely to require the services of these soldiers, seeing that so far she has had no occasion to indent for troops from abroad. Indeed, although it is difficult to read the future, one may go a step further and say that peace is now so firmly established in the country that the presence of even one British soldier is unnecessary. As for complications on the frontier, experience has proved fully that native troops are sufficient to completely crush all His Majesty's enemies in that quarter. The Editor also condemns Lord Alverstone's award, and remarks that India is too poor to bear the least addition to her expenditure. Besides, in recognition of what services have the British soldiers in India been granted an increase of pay? So far the *Goras* have done nothing to entitle them to a reward, while the devotion and loyalty displayed by Jack Sepoy in the service of the British Crown is known to the whole world.

The same.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, remarks that Lord Curzon deserves the thanks of the people for having protested against the proposal.

The same.

11. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, writing on the same subject, calls upon Native Chiefs and big Taluqdars to submit a memorial to Government praying that, as they are willing to render personal service in order to maintain peace on the frontier, Mr. Brodrick's proposal may be abandoned.

Lord Curzon's extension of office.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 6th August 1903, writing on the subject of Lord Curzon's extension of office, prays that His Excellency's further stay in the country may prove still more beneficial to the people. It is to be hoped that the Viceroy will do his utmost to introduce the reforms he has from time to time promised to initiate. Lord Curzon is a vigilant ruler, and it is his constant care that during his *regime* natives should not be subjected to any hardship. It is possible that he may come to form a wrong opinion on a question for want of correct information, but he never neglects to try to obtain that information, while the Resolutions issued by him reflect public opinion. The Editor then suggests that those

Lieutenant-Governors who make themselves very popular or cannot, by the end of their ordinary term of office, complete the administrative reforms begun by them, should be granted adequate extensions.

The same.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that Lord Curzon seems to take pride in the thought that he is to occupy the Viceregal throne for some time longer. Those who hold him personally responsible for the pernicious policy regarding the exclusion of Natives from all the higher appointments in the public service could not have been pleased at his extension. But who can say that His Excellency's successor will not have still greater regard for the welfare of men of his own nationality ?

The same.

14. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 12th August 1903, publishes similar remarks.

The same.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of 10th August 1903, says that the people must have been pleased at the news that a just, kind-hearted and vigilant ruler like Lord Curzon is not to quit the reins of the government of this country for some time yet. Probably His Excellency is the only Viceroy after Lords Ripon and Northbrook whom the whole country has praised unanimously. During his Viceroyalty Lord Ripon paid a visit to a certain district and was accorded such an enthusiastic reception as might have made even Akbar (had that monarch been alive) jealous of His Lordship. The present occupant of the Viceregal throne has never been accorded such a royal reception, but there can be no doubt that he holds a place in the heart of every Native. A perusal of the speech in which he announced that he had consented to an extension of office would show that he does not wish to leave his work half done and is anxious to bring to completion the reforms he has initiated. The *Pioneer*, however, denies that there is any work which it is the duty of Lord Curzon to finish, and remarks that the only scheme which can suffer through his departure from India at the present juncture is that of the Victoria Memorial. It may be added that while during the last five years His Lordship has performed several very useful acts, some of his measures must have displeased rulers of Native States, *e.g*, the order forbidding these Chiefs to visit Europe except with the permission of the Viceroy and the Secretary of State for India. The Editor then refers to some of the acts of the present Government which, he says, are certain to occupy a prominent place in the history of India.

The same.

16. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th August 1903, remarks that English and Anglo-Indian newspapers are generally pleased at Lord Curzon's extension of office. Strictly speaking the Native Press also has no occasion to be displeased with the arrangement, although the author of the "Failure of Lord Curzon" has left no stone unturned to make the Viceroy unpopular. One cannot but acknowledge His Excellency to be a man of great ability and keen understanding, and thinking Natives cannot hope to get a better Viceroy.

17. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, in reviewing "The Failure of Lord Curzon," says that the *Civil and Military Gazette* has tried to make light of the accusations preferred against the Viceroy. They may be exaggerated, but it cannot be denied that they are not wholly without foundation. Even the staunchest supporter of British rule in India must feel disheartened at reading an account of Lord Curzon's doings in this country. His Lordship's policy not only presages the downfall of the Empire and disruption of the country, but is calculated to strain the relations between the rulers and ruled. The virtual annexation of the Berars, the permanent lease by Government of a part of the dominions of the Khan of Kalat, interference in the affairs of Patiala, and the proposal to appoint a State Council for Nabha, &c., have made the native public apprehensive about the integrity of other States. And if His Excellency is given an extension of office, the days of Kashmir must be regarded as numbered. Again Act I of 1903 has transferred to Government the possession of lakhs of acres of land belonging to the zamindars of the Sindh-Sagar Doab without any compensation being paid to the last named. As for land on the Chenab Canal, which should have been granted to zamindars alone, the greater part of it has been given away to non-agriculturists, while *nazarana*, &c., is recovered at exorbitant rates. The conditions regarding the grant of land on the Jhelum Canal have been made still more stringent, and grants will consist of small plots only. Lord Curzon's Resolution on the subject of the assessment of the land revenue produced a sensation of numbness throughout the country, while he is responsible for having made legal the impressment of cattle in time of war. Moreover, he has wasted lakhs of rupees over the Delhi Darbar, excluded Natives from holding higher posts in certain Departments and laid the axe at the root of education in the country. His sympathy with Native Clerks has turned out to be hollow, and he pays no heed to the appeals submitted to him by these unfortunate public servants. It is a matter of satisfaction, however, to Natives that His Excellency is not to stay here for ever, and that the day is not distant when he will be succeeded by a more generous and larger-hearted Viceroy, who will heal the wounds inflicted on the people during the present *regime*. If "Twenty-eight years in India" is right in stating that the actual number of deaths from plague is concealed from the British public, it is possible that that public knows nothing of Act I of 1903 either, and the Act regarding the impressment of cattle in time of war. It is to be hoped that when the British come to know of the above oppressive laws the same will be repeated without delay. At all events the writer of the pamphlet under review deserves thanks for having brought it out at a time when the question of extending Lord Curzon's office is under consideration.

"The Failure of Lord Curzon."

18. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 19th August 1903, states that an article under the heading of "Will His Excellency Lord Kitchener Hearken?" appeared recently in the *Madras Times*, in which the Commander-in-Chief was advised to "avoid the recruitment of Muhammadan soldiers in the Indian Army, lest a day may come when their preponderance in the troops of Great Britain may prove dangerous to the interests of the Empire on account of the importance which Muhammadans attach to the Caliphate

Muhammadan loyalty and the Indian Army.

at Constantinople." In criticising this article the *Observer* makes the following remarks :—

"The slur that is cast on the gallant Mussalman soldiers of his Majesty the King-Emperor will be resented not only by the persons maligned or their community, but also by some of the most experienced European officers of the Army, who have more than once publicly expressed their recognition of the devotion and bravery displayed by Muhammadan soldiers against great odds. The loyalty of Muhammadans has been put to a severe test whenever British arms have come into conflict with Mussalman hosts, but it has proved unflinching. If in spite of all this, papers professing to voice the feelings of the ruling class, throw doubts on the honesty of the Muhammadan army, hinting that a call from the Caliphate may so far upset them as to enable them to forget their duties to their rightful masters and to turn against them, nothing could be (more ?) injurious to the permanence of loyal sentiments. A more unmerited libel on Muhammadan soldiers of the Indian Army could be hardly conceived. * * * * Moreover the idea of the Caliphate can be realised only by the literate, and its political value as a uniting factor in Islam can be appreciated by few even among them, while the mass of the Indian Army, whether Mussalmans or belonging to any other denomination, are illiterate and have no means of getting at such literature as may tend to put political notions of any sort into their head. Happily this very fact of the Army being illiterate is to some extent a safeguard against the evil effects of writings such as the one appearing in the *Madras Times*, otherwise libels on their character like this would prove more injurious than any admiration of the Caliph of Islam can possibly be. Such writings have the effect of poisoning their minds and filling them with dissatisfaction, as one naturally feels a keen sense of disappointment, if he finds genuine devotion, staunch loyalty and firm faithfulness repaid by doubt and suspicion. Very few Mussalmans in the English Army read English, and therefore the article in original has not much chance of reaching them. With the Vernacular Press, however, as a possible medium, and with the possibility of Vernacular papers being read out by literate soldiers to their illiterate friends, it is risky to publish such articles. Lord Kitchener will most likely feel the reverse of greatful to these gratuitous advisers for spreading such sorry stuff in the army and will know how to regard such advice. It proceeds from the simple desire to win renewed recognition for the Tamil and Telugu speaking races of Madras—a very legitimate desire in its own way, but one which could very easily have been fulfilled without this extremely ill-advised and uncalled for attack on the Muhammadan Army. This attack will not advance the cause of the Madras men in the least, while it will cause much excusable and natural indignation among such of the Muhammadan soldiery and people as may chance to come across the article or its translation."

The Native's ability for administrative work.

19. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 6th August 1903, says that educated Natives and leading Congress men claim that they are no way inferior to Europeans in general and administrative ability. They therefore see no reason why Government should not place them on a footing of equality with the latter in the matter of appointments to higher posts in the public service, only one-sixth of which are now open to them. The writer does not believe that educated Natives really possess the qualifications they are so ready to arrogate to themselves. This should not, however, be taken to mean that he is opposed to the propaganda of the National Congress. He admits that a country, of which the public service is in the hands of foreigners, can never improve financially or learn the art of self-government. Nevertheless it is a fact that Natives are incapable of giving satisfaction in administrative appointments, and it is for this reason that

Government is chary of conferring such appointments on them. In support of his contention the correspondent refers to the case of Patiala, where the Council of Regency has admittedly proved a failure, while departments under European officials are making marked improvement and progress.

The Raja of Nabha on the Muhammadan Rulers of India.

20. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st August 1903, writing about the Raja of Nabha's recent speech at Simla says that had His Highness taken the trouble to consult the History of India he would never have made his bigoted remarks against Muhammadan rulers. During the Muslem rule Hindus were not made to embrace Islam by force, nor where their temples pulled down. As to iconoclastic zeal, the stories about Mahmud of Ghazni are no better than myths It is possible that during Muhammadan invasions several temples and idols may have been broken ; but this was not peculiar to their invasions : all conquests were attended more or less with such results. At any rate, a Sikh Raja cannot prefer accusations against other rulers, seeing that the misrule of his co-religionists has passed into a proverb. Even at the present day Muhammadan subjects of Sikh States can neither say their Call for Prayer in a loud voice nor make converts from other religions. On the other hand, in Mussalman States not only Sikhs but even Hindus enjoy complete religious liberty, while in Hyderabad not a few Hindu temples have *jagirs* attached to them. Lord Curzon should call for an explanation from the Raja of Nabha as to why he made uncalled for remarks against the Muhammadan Rulers of India. Under the present benign *regime* even a personage of His Highness' position should not be allowed to injure the feelings of others with impunity. It can only be imagined what the lot must be of the Muhammadan subjects of a ruler who is so prejudiced against that faith.

The same.

21. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 31st July 1903, writing on the same subject, says that the *Aligarh Gazette* also takes exception to the Raja's remarks. That paper is of opinion that even if one admits the truth of His Highness' allegations it should be borne in mind that religious bigotry was not peculiar to India, but that Europe also was not free from the reproach. Besides, modern civilisation requires that one should refrain from speaking or writing words calculated to inflame religious animosities.

The same.

22. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, publishes similar remarks.

How the British conquered India.

23. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, publishes a communication the writer of which reproduces a conversation he had recently with a friend, the gist of which is that the British conquered India not with the sword, but by diplomacy and by the expenditure of gold. The correspondent would like the Editor and the latter's readers to express an opinion on the point. Commenting on the above the Editor declines to say anything on the subject and remarks that such controversies serve no useful purpose. As to the bravery of the Government, the moral courage displayed by it every now and then leaves no room for doubt on that score. The writer seems to confound bravery with brute force and deeds of bloodshed.

III.—Native States.

24. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, writing about the havoc wrought by the recent floods in Kashmir, observes that the Maharaja having subscribed lavishly towards certain funds started by the Government of India, the State Treasury is quite empty and there is nothing wherewith to relieve the sufferings of the State subjects. To make matters worse, three highly-placed officials accompanied with their respective staffs are to visit the Happy Valley next month, and the State will have to spend very large sums of money on their entertainment. Lord Curzon should postpone his projected visit to Kashmir, the money proposed to be spent on it being devoted to the relief of those who have suffered from the floods. The Viceroy should also direct the Maharaja to make the same use of the funds set apart for His Excellency's entertainment.

Floods in Kashmir.

25. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, publishes a cartoon on the same subject and remarks that it is not improbable that the floods may induce the Viceroy to postpone his visit to Kashmir.

The same.

26. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th and *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of the 12th August 1903, also request the Viceroy to forego his visit to Kashmir.

The same.

VI.—Legislation.

27. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 6th August 1903, writing about the Bill to regulate the sale of poisons which has recently been introduced in the Supreme Legislative Council, remarks that the proposed law is calculated to benefit the public greatly and that similar laws are in force in all civilised countries. Its operation should not, however, be limited to Municipalities : small towns should be brought within its purview.

Sale of poisons.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

28. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1903, publishes a cartoon intended to convey the advice that the profession of agriculture should be preferred to Government service.

Government service *versus* agriculture.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—27-8-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Bulgaria and Turkey.

1. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th August 1903, says that it is quite unlikely that any European Power will fight Turkey on behalf of the insurgents in Macedonia or Armenia. It is not improbable, however, that there will be war between Turkey and Bulgaria. At all events, it is certain that the insurrection in Macedonia cannot be suppressed so long as the spirit of Bulgaria is not thoroughly crushed. The Bulgarian Government may not favour war, but the army and public are determined to try conclusions with Turkey. They are under the impression that on the commencement of hostilities the Powers, at least Russia, will interfere, which will lead to the transfer of Macedonia to Bulgaria. But they are reckoning without their host. Turkey is stronger now than she ever was during the past century, while Russia's hands are so full in the Far East that she can attend to hardly anything else. As for the Powers, they may roar from a distance, but none of them are likely to take the trouble of fighting the Turks. It would appear, therefore, that Bulgaria and Turkey will be allowed to fight it out between themselves, but that the Powers will not let the Sultan reap the fruits of a victory.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	737	8	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	78	13	0
Total	...	816	5	0

(*b*)—*Home.*

The cost of the troops in South Africa.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, says that in the course of one of his recent speeches Mr. Brodrick uttered words which go to show that the real object of stationing a British garrison in South Africa

is to establish British authority there. To say that these troops will be available for service in India also is merely a pretext to charge a portion of the cost to this country. The entire cost of the garrison should be paid by South Africa, to maintain order wherein the War Secretary has brought forward his proposal.

Free trade and India.

4. The same paper, writing about Mr. Chamberlain's proposal regarding preferential tariffs, remarks that every leading British Statesman is busy at present solving the question whether Great Britain should continue to follow the principles of free trade. A Native journalist, however, will look at the question from the standpoint whether free trade or protection is beneficial to the interests of India. The Editor is of opinion that free trade is based on scientific principles and has been a source of considerable benefit to this country. Were the present policy to be reversed, which God forbid, India would be certain to grow poorer still. Germany, France, Austria, America, England, and other countries are now free to export their manufactures to Hindustan, and competition enables the natives of India to buy these articles at low prices. But if English merchants alone were allowed to trade with this country, or if duty on the goods exported by them were realised at lower rates, they would be able to defy competition on the part of traders of other nationalities and sell their wares at their own prices, which must prove extremely injurious to the interests of the natives of India. It may perhaps be said that the introduction of protection will result in Indian exports fetching higher prices in the British market, and that this will constitute sufficient compensation for the above loss. India, however, exports nothing but grain and cotton, articles which countries other than Great Britain will buy only too gladly. In short, Mr. Chamberlain's proposal may be beneficial to his own country, but it can no way benefit India. Indeed, the Colonial Secretary cannot be expected to do what will be to the advantage of this country.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

Government and the Amir.

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, says that a frontier correspondent enquires what good Government expects from the Amir in return for the subsidy paid to His Highness. It is a mistake to place any great faith in the professions of friendship on the part of the ruler of Kabul. Indeed, its attitude towards Afghanistan has already subjected Government to considerable loss, and the Amir may involve it in great danger at some critical time. Lord Lytton, who brought this everlasting trouble on India's head, is dead ; but had he been alive he would have asked his successors to abandon his policy.

The same.

6. The same paper publishes a cartoon in which the Amir is seen asking the Government of India to increase the amount of the subsidy paid to him. The latter promises to think over the matter, which the paper takes to mean that Habibulla Khan is to have the increase, although it is difficult to say in return for what. The further remarks of the paper run as follows :— The subsidy was increased from 12 to 24 lakhs, and is going to be added to still further. England has contributed nothing ; the whole amount has so

far been paid by India. We, for one, would discontinue the payment even of 24 lakhs per annum, for the reason that although crores of rupees have been paid to the Amir, Government has received no good return for the money. We would even change the Amir, let alone increasing his annual income.

Rumours of a war on the frontier.

7. The same paper publishes a communication in which the writer states that of late every newspaper has been hinting that a war (on the frontier) is imminent and that Government is busy making warlike preparations. In case the surmise turns out to be true a famine will be certain to break out in the country, for simultaneously with the commencement of hostilities the prices of food stuffs will go up. Again, in all probability a new tax—called perhaps the "Government Support Tax"—will be levied from the people. In other wards, if war does break out, it will be the duty of the people to render Government all possible help to show that they are loyal to the British Throne. And one cannot support Government with mere words, or even by laying down one's life in its defence. In order to do so effectually one must part with the money one has scraped together or has inherited from his parents; and it is a great thing if one is ranked among the loyal, even after this. It may be added that in every case Government will take care not to displease the Amir, although the latter may continue to follow a selfish, mischievous and inimical policy. The net result is that while the threatened war will prove a source of uneasiness to both Government and the people, it will benefit the ruler of Kabul and a few *banias*, both of whom think alike.

Commenting on the above the Editor observes that just at present there is no likelihood of this country engaging in war anywhere. At all events, Government is not sitting idle and is in a position to checkmate all its enemies.

Kalat affairs.

8. A Kalat correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, refers to the circumstances under which Government has obtained from the Khan of Kalat a perpetual lease of the Nasirabad Niabat, and remarks that there is no truth in the statement published in the *Watan* and the *Paisa Akhbar* that the change was necessitated owing to the Khan's officials having practiced oppression on the residents of the Niabat.

III.—Native States.

Distress in Kashmir.

9. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, writing about the prevailing distress in Kashmir, requests Lord Curzon to postpone his visit to that part of the country. It is true that His Excellency may be depended upon to forbid all unnecessary expenditure in connection with his entertainment, still the Maharaja cannot be expected to stint himself in entertaining an illustrious guest like the Viceroy.

The same.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, writing on the same subject, says that it is to be hoped the God-fearing Lord Curzon will abstain from imposing a burden on the State treasury by paying his proposed visit to Kashmir. The money, which would otherwise be spent on the enter-

tainment of His Excellency, will go a long way towards relieving the distress of the Maharaja's subjects. The Commander-in-Chief has already abandoned his visit to Kashmir, and the Viceroy should lose no time in following Lord Kitchener's example.

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

Mr. Macauliffe's lectures on Sikhism.

11. The *Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th August 1903, remaks that in his lectures on Sikhism Mr. Macauliffe has, so to say, represented a human being to be a beast. He says that the Sikhs do not hesitate to eat beef and every other flesh, *i.e.* they occupy the lowest rank among men. The reports of the above lectures are certain to find their way to all parts of the country, and the result will be that the Hindus will decline to eat with the Gurus' followers or allow the latter to enter their houses and places of worship. That this is calculated to injure the Sikhs goes without saying. They should, therefore, hold public meetings to contradict Mr. Macauliffe, every Khalsa Diwan and Singh Sabha also taking up the question. The gentleman named has ventured to make the assertion under reference owing perhaps to certain accursed Sikhs having dined with him. The Editor then quotes two *chhandas* composed by Guru Gobind Singh in which the latter expresses an earnest desire to afford protection to cows and put down kine-slaughter. He adds that this shows clearly enough that cow protection is enjoined on the Sikhs and that Mr. Macauliffe only betrays his own ignorance in asserting that the Sikh scriptures are silent on the point.

The same.

12. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, expresses sorrow at the present deplorable condition of Sikhism, and remarks that that faith is tottering to its fall. In reviewing one of the lectures recently delivered by Mr. Macauliffe at Simla, Sir Charles Rivaz remarked that the Raja of Nabha and Baba Sir Khem Singh, Bedi, were the great leaders of the Sikhs and could be depended upon to ensure the advancement of their religion. But it must be recorded with regret that both these personages are indifferent to the welfare of their co-religionists. They have had enough of wordly honours, and at their present age ought to think of winning honour in the field of religion. The Editor then criticises the lectures aforesaid, and remarks that Mr. Macauliffe's reference to the question regarding the eating of beef was calculated to give mortal offence to both Sikhs and Hindus. It is wholly incorrect to say that the followers of the Gurus have so little in common with the Hindus that the Sikh scriptures nowhere forbid the eating of beef.

The same.

13. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 8th August 1903, in commenting or Mr. Macauliffe's lecture on Sikhism, refers to several points of similarity between that religion and Islam. As to the lecturer's remarks regarding the eating of beef, the Editor fails to see why a thing the use of which is not expressly forbidden in the *Granth* should be held to be allowable. The flesh of kine is not a desirable article of food even from a medical point of view.

The Muhammadans also admit that while the milk of the cow is wholesome beef is the reverse. The requirements of India, which is an agricultural country, demand that cows should not be killed for food. Indeed, if the Sikhs also were, like English soldiers, certain non-agricultural tribes and poor Muhammadans, to take to eating beef the number of plough cattle in the country would greatly decrease. Even as it is, the price of such cattle is going up with leaps and bounds. The Editor then deprecates the remarks made by the Raja of Nabha against the Muhammadan rulers of India, and refers to certain historical incidents to show that they are devoid of truth.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad.

14. A Bannu correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, states that some time back Mulla Latif, who owned a *jagir* in the Bannu district and had considerable influence with the Amir, prepared to start on a pilgrimage to Mecca and received Rs. 1,000 from Habibulla Khan towards the expenses of the journey. After leaving home, however, he went to Qadian, where his feelings were so worked upon by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad that he gave up the idea of going to Mecca and decided to become a preacher of the Ahmadi faith. When the Amir heard of this he sent for the Mulla and gave him to understand that the Mirza's followers had been driven out of the pale of Islam, the *ulemas* of Mecca and Medina having issued *futwas* to that effect. The man was given some time to rectify the mistake committed by him; but he would not change his mind in the belief that "the promised Messiah" would avert any coming injury. On the expiry of the above period, however, he was blown from a gun. After twitting Mirza Ghulam Ahmad with having failed to know of this beforehand, the writer vouches for the truth of the above, remarking that the same was related to a friend of his by a consin of Mulla Latif.

VII.—General Administration.

(*g*)—*Postal matters.*

The Postmaster-Generalship, Punjab.

15. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 22th August 1903, writes as follows:—

"The appointment is announced of Mr. G. R. Clarke, Joint Magistrate in charge of the Kasia Sub-Division of Gorakhpur, as Officiating Postmaster-General, Punjab, in place of Mr. Stewart Wilson, who officiates as the Director-General of Post Offices in India. We believe the appointment of a Civilian from the United Provinces at the head of the Postal Department in the Punjab will cause a good deal of surprise throughout the Province, unless it is shown that he has had some exceptional training for Postal work. Mr. Clarke may be a clever officer in his own way, may adapt himself fairly well to the conditions of the Postal Department and may not find it difficult to control a department which is already working with the regularity of a machine, and therefore we ought not to be understood as saying anything against him personally. Our surprise at the appointment is on principle. In the first place why cannot any Superintendent of Post Offices in the higher grade and with sufficient experience be placed in temporary charge of the Postal Department instead of the services of a Civilian being requisitioned, and why is a Civilian regarded as a man born for every branch of work? In the second place, if a Civilian was to be appointed, why has it been felt necessary to go outside the Punjab in search of one even for an officiating appointment?"

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

"The Failure of Lord Curzon."

16. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th August 1903, says that while the Anglo-Indian Press has, with one voice, condemned "The Failure of Lord Curzon," Bengali newspapers have, on the whole, supported the conclusions arrived at in the pamphlet. An unprejudiced observer cannot help remarking that both the supporters and the opponents of Lord Curzon have, in their zeal, overstepped the limits of discretion. They have been attributing to His Excellency what truth requires should be laid at the door of the Government of India. Not one of the evils mentioned in the publication under review is the creation of Lord Curzon : they are only a legacy from the past. At the worst His Lordship may be accused of having failed to make Government do justice to Natives, although it is probable that he was quite unable to do so. Nevertheless, the present Viceroy deserves credit for infusing new life into the administration, giving an impetus to indigenous arts and industries, and preventing Natives from being treated like cattle at the hands of Anglo-Indians.

Treatment of Natives by British soldiers.

17. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 16th August 1903, remarks that the complaints regarding the ill-treatment of Natives by British soldiers have only served to excite the latter's anger. Lord Kitchener's General Order on the subject has merely helped to enrage these sons of Mars still further, and instances of their maltreatment of the people are being multiplied fast. Whenever soldier becomes angry with a native he does not content himself with giving the latter a slap or two, but usually kills the object of his wrath. Government should lose no time in devising more stringent measures to make the *Goras* mend their ways, for all reprimands and warnings are lost on them.

The same.

18. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, remarks that in one of its recent issues the *Civil and Military Gazette* observes that the Commander-in-Chief having threatened to punish British soldiers for ill-treating Natives, it behoves Civil officers also to mete out similar treatment to the people with a view to preventing the last-named from laying violent hands on the soldiers. After quoting the *Civil and Military Gazette's* remarks the Editor says that the local Anglo-Indian daily seems to have taken an oath to run down the children of the soil and ignore their grievances in considering questions like the one under reference. It also overlooks the fact that notwithstanding the repeated warnings of the Commander-in-Chief, *Goras* exhibit no signs of giving up their barbarous practices. Only recently some soldiers assaulted and outraged a Muhammadan woman at Dum Dum, showing thereby that they do not care a straw for Lord Kitchener's General Order. As regards the advice that Natives should only take legal proceedings against offending British soldiers and abstain from taking the law into their own hands, the former know full well that the latter are acquitted by juries even when they commit murders. What the *Civil and Military Gazette* then means to say is that the people should be made to understand that

they are not to move a little finger, however badly they may be treated by soldiers, which is calculated to make the last-named still more reckless. It is very doubtful if Natives ever lay violent hand on *Goras*, whereas news to the contrary comes daily from all parts of the country.

Calls on the purse of Natives.

19. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th August 1903, remarks that the people of India are called upon to subscribe to so many funds that they are becoming poorer from day to day. They should be chary of giving money, whether for the Hedjaz Railway—for which every newspaper has opened subscription lists—or the Aligarh College.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—3-9-03—70

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Unrest in the Balkans.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, says that very disquieting news is being received about the Bulgarian Frontier. While the European Powers are urging Turkey to quell the rebellion without resorting to strong measures, the Macedonian insurgents are growing bolder and busying themselves in circulating all sorts of lies about Turkish atrocities. Why should the tender-hearted Powers, asks the Editor, not allow the Porte to suppress the insurgents with a strong hand so as to preclude the possibility of the peace of Europe being endangered? The Turks are evidently not much to blame in the matter, seeing that the Bulgarians are a mischievous people to deal with. The recent news that the Sultan has sent an order to Germany for the supply of 32 batteries of Krupp guns leaves little room for doubt that the situation in the near East is far from reassuring.

Turkey and the Christian Nations.

2. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, in the course of an article under the heading of "The Universal Unrest" makes the following remarks :—

"The Balkans and the Far East constitute the 'storm centres,' from which the tempest may spread in any direction, nay, even involve the whole world in one universal conflict. The bitter hatred with which all Christendom regards the Ottoman Empire in Europe is, as it has ever been, the cause of the troubles in Macedonia. This is one of the last European Provinces remaining to Turkey. There was a time when the Sultan of Turkey was powerful enough to cope single-handed with the whole of Christian Europe arrayed against him, even carry the battle into the Christian Camp. But the days of Solyman the Magnificent are long ago gone past recalling! The anti-Turk spirit, to which the greatest and best of Christian statesmen have at times succumbed, is not due to Turkish *zulum* necessarily. An impartial study of history shows that Muslim rule in Europe—Moorish and Turkish—has been phenomenally tolerant. Not a few of the Sipah Salars (Generalissimos) of the Osman army have been Christians, as well as leading Ministers, even Grand Wazirs. The Body Guard of the Sultan consists of Chistrians. In fact, religious and racial disqualification has been unknown in Turkish dominions. And the blood-curding stories of Christian massacres generally originate in

the deterrent punishment awarded to turbulent Christian tribes who now and again break out into open rebellion, and carry fire and sword through large tracts, counting on the sympathy and aid of their powerful co-religionists. And this sympathy and aid is not denied to them. Just now the Macedonians (following the example of the neighbouring Christian principalities which were formerly under Turkish rule, but have been liberated and set up as independent States by the Christian Powers) have risen *en masse* against the Government. Bulgarians are openly helping them. Russia and Austria are directly or indirectly encouraging them. The Sultan must needs take rigorous steps to crush down the rebellion. In almost all the conflicts Turkish arms have triumphed. Though all Christian correspondents and news-suppliers are trying their best to put the Macedonian side of the affair in the most favourable light, and make the most of the smallest Macedonian successes, yet the truth cannot be glossed over, and it is becoming evident that Turkish troops are carrying all before them. It is, however, not a question between a Sovereign and his recalcitrant subjects, but the old fight between the Crescent and the Cross. Internal troubles, possibility of matters coming to a head in the Far East and the realisation of the resisting power of the Sultan are the only causes that stand in the way of Russia openly taking the part of the "oppressed" and "wronged" Macedonians. Austria has also something to say in the matter and might come forward to say it any moment. America, too, has a finger in the pie. France is with Russia. Germany is apparently Turkey's friend to the disgust of all good Christians. England is watching the game with its wonted keenness."

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 14th August 1903 ...	432	2	0
Small subscriptions	142	2	0
Total ...	574	4	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	11,571	2	7

The same.

4. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	816	5	0
Small subscriptions	29	4	0
Total ...	845	9	0

The same.

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, says that Colonel Barr, a Political Officer of considerable experience, has also expressed himself doubtful of the Hedjaz Railway Scheme being brought to a successful issue (*vide* para. 3 of Selection No. 33). The Editor, who already entertains misgivings as to the success of the project, advises his countrymen to abstain from participating in the venture.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon and the Native Press.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, after reproducing the substance of a communication published in the *Tribune* disparaging Lord Curzon, remarks that the Native Press should strongly condemn such writings as are calculated to bring disgrace upon it. Even granting that some of His Excellency's measures have proved injurious to India, it is highly improper and unmannerly to address His Lordship in harsh and discourteous terms.

The same.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st August 1903, writing on the same subject, says that such adverse criticism might be allowed to appear if it were calculated to teach its subject a better sense of duty for the future. But as a rule such remarks are known to produce results the reverse of salutary. The Editor, however, hopes that they will not ruffle Lord Curzon's equanimity in that His Lordship is seasoned to them and knows their proper worth. He concludes by expressing the hope that the rule of Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener will prove an era of extraordinary prosperity for India.

Lord Curzon's extension of office.

8. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, writing about Lord Curzon's extension of office, says that the best way to commemorate the event on the part of the natives of India would be to submit congratulatory messages to His Excellency with an assurance of the confidence of the people.

The Benares Ivory Furniture.

9. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1903, publishes the substance of the correspondence which has appeared in the Press and makes the following remarks :—

"* * * And there is no doubt that if half of what Mrs. Smeaton said in her letter were true, it would have been damaging to Lord Curzon, whose reputation in such matters is above suspicion. However, it is a relief to find that the Maharaja of Benares, the party directly concerned in the transaction, has categorically contradicted the statement of Mrs. Donald Smeaton in a letter to the London *Times* * * * The whole story of the transaction, as related by His Highness the Maharaja, must silence the tongue of calumny about a ruler whose personal honesty is a feature in his character which even his bitterest critics have never questioned. As to Mrs. Smeaton, one would wish that she had thought that to give currency to facts which she had not fully ascertained was beneath a gentle lady."

The same.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1903, publishes the substance of the correspondence without comment.

"Peace and War."

11. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd September 1903, in reviewing an article on "Peace and War," published by Mr. H. M. Hyndman in a London newspaper, makes the following remarks :—

"* * * The league-long accounts that always follow a so-called War with 'natives,' of 'insurmountable difficulties' and 'inconceivable hardship' which the 'unparalleled heroism' of British troops and the 'unconquerable genius' of British officers

are found to have 'combined' to overcome,' and the showers of titles and honours and medals and Victoria Crosses and money grants with which the said war is wound up have very often made the world wonder if more ado were possible if the British had been at war with a first-class European Power, such as Russia, or Germany or France. But alas! the said 'wars' have been nothing more than maxim guns *versus* rusty matchlocks and blunt spears in most cases; maxim guns *versus* lathies and stones in some cases; and maxim guns *versus* clenched fists in particular cases. Only the other day we were reading a paragraph in an English paper descriptive of the 'unparalleled heroism' of a British officer in the so-called war in Soudan. Seeing a gap in the British square six Soudanese were reckless enough to charge into the lines of the enemies when the British hero felled them one by one to the ground *with his fist*; which shows that most of the Soudanese soldiers had turned out to fight the maxim guns armed with the same formidable weapon with which our gallant British officer is alleged to have made six of them bite the dust. Yet Dum-Dum bullets, the use of which is forbidden in 'civilised' warfare for well-known reasons, are made solely for 'natives' and pachydermatous animals, and are at present in tearful requisition in Somaliland in consideration of the lack of sufficient 'stopping' capacities of the 'civilised' bullets! There are people (may the Angel of War condemn their wicked souls to eternal perdition!) who maliciously describe these wars as indiscriminate slaughters of helpless humanity. * * * Looking round upon the conditions of our time, Mr. Hyndman does not feel quite sure that even to-day, from the standpoint of justice and liberty, it is always true in practice that 'peace is an excellent thing.' A war which should relieve Finland and Poland and the Russian people themselves from the yoke of Czardom would be a benefit to the world, and that a war or a series of wars which would give the proletariats of all countries a chance to assert themselves, and a home war of economic emancipation on their own account, would be welcome, as matters stand to-day. We agree with him that there is a certain degree of Czardom in India also, but his conclusion as to a war being the best remedy for it appears to us to be rather hasty. * * * "

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

One Maulvi Abdul Latif stoned to death at Kabul.

12. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 24th August 1903, says that a respectable family of Sahibzadas, who own some land in the Bannu District, had settled at Khost in Afghanistan during the time of the late Amir Abdur Rahman. One of the members of this family, Maulvi Abdul Latif, after receiving his religious education in India, represented the Afghan Government in the last Boundary Commission, and was subsequently appointed Chief Maulvi at Kabul. Last winter the Maulvi left his home, with the permission of Amir Habibulla Khan, to go on a pilgrimage to Mecca. Instead, however, of proceeding to the holy city, Maulvi Abdul Latif went to stay at Qadian with Mirza Ghulam Ahmad and become his disciple. On his return home, after a lapse of two or three months, the Maulvi sent the Mirza's writings, together with his own views on them, to Sardar Nasarulla Khan for perusal. The step brought a squad of 12 soldiers from Kabul to convey him there for trial before the Afghan Maulvis for heresy. The latter failing to persuade Abdul Latif to recant his religious beliefs sentenced him to be stoned to death. The deceased's family also has been conducted to Kabul under arrest, their personal effects being confiscated to the State.

III.—Native States.

Lord Curzon's proposed visit to Kashmir postponed.

13. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, says that in suggesting that Lord Curzon should forego his proposed visit to Kashmir it had voiced the unanimous opinion of the Indian public on the

subject. The Editor is glad to say that His Excellency has, by postponing it, proved himself a thorough diplomat and evinced true sympathy for the distressed. He is more sincerely pleased with this than ever with the news about the extension of His Lordship's tenure of office.

The same.

14. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 29th August 1903, writing on the same subject, says that if Lord Curzon visits Kashmir in its present condition it will be rather to help the poor than to enjoy a pleasure trip.

Withdrawal of the powers of the Raja of Bilaspur.

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, writing on this subject makes the following remarks :—

"The blow that has at last fallen on the poor Raja of Bilaspur had long been expected by us. Not that the Chief is a simpleton, he being one of the most intelligent of Indian Feudatories; not that he hates cares of State, he being passionately fond of work; not that he is given to drink and debauchery, he being a teetotaller, and phenomenally continent as Rajput Chieftains go; not that he has no grasp of administration, he being noted for his keen supervision and control; not that he keeps himself aloof from his people, he being accessible to all. Not that he is unpopular, he being an idol of the common *rayyat*. Not that, in short, there is any such grave defect in his character and qualifications as a ruler as should make the fate that has overtaken him inevitable; he is purely the victim of circumstances, and his is a pathetic case lending strength to the popular belief that intelligence and independence are often 'fatal virtues' in an Indian Chief. There are idiots on *guddees* who pass days and nights in vulgar revelry; who take minutes in affixing their mark on State documents; who cannot speak four sentences connectedly; and who are concerned only with keeping their privy purse overflowing. *They* never come into collision with the Politicals. They leave affairs of the *raj* to astute favourites, who know how to keep them happy on one side and the Politicals pleased on the other. Chiefs of this type are not only never out of favour, but are frequently pointed to as models of old type Chiefs! Do they not know how to perform the Mandarin bow to perfection? Do they not instinctively take care to keep out of sight? These Princes never come to harm and need never fear harm. But a Chief who is a lover of books and has tried his hand at authorship himself, who realises his responsibility to his people and tries to do his duty by them, who introduces what he honestly believes to be reforms and improvements in the administration, and who makes the lives of dishonest officials, however powerful, miserable, is branded as an extravagant, whimsical and tyrannical Prince utterly unfit to exercise his Princely functions! * * * His Highness is unfortunately a little too sensitive. He is also too much a believer in the justice of his cause, forgetting that tact and diplomacy come first and justice long behind. * * * *"*

VI.—Legislation.

Mian Muhammad Shah Din appointed to the Punjab Legislative Council.

16. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 23rd August 1903, says that the appointment of Mian Muhammad Shah Din to the Punjab Legislative Council in place of the late Sir Imam Bakhsh Khan, Mazari, will be welcomed by Punjabi Muhammadans. The Mian is a leading member of the Baghbanpur family and is held in great esteem for his literary abilities. He has presided over one session of the Muhammadan Educational Conference, an admittedly representative body of the Mussalmans of India. The Mian's participation in national meetings and his views on topics of the day are looked

upon with the honour they deserve. The choice, in short, is eminently satisfactory and one for which the Muhammanans should feel grateful to Sir Charles Rivaz.

17. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 23rd, the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st, the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd and the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st August 1903 publish similar remarks.

The same.

18. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, maks the following remarks :—

The Bill to amend the Official Secrets Act.

"Lord Curzon cannot certainly have been well advised to allow his Government to bring into fresh prominence that highly obnoxious measure, the Official Secrets Act of 1889, which was one of the measures that contributed to the unpopularity of Lord Lansdowne's *regime*. * * * Whatever Government secrets see the light now and then in India through the medium of the Press have as a rule civil bearings, so to say, being in the main concerned with the adjustment of civil relations, or the securing of civil justice, as between citizen and citizen or between rulers and ruled. Even Military Department papers when got hold of by any member of the Indian Press for comment are of the kind that have a civil aspect lending itself for treatment—such, for instance, as the distribution of appointments between Europeans and Natives, the relations of soldiers with the public, and so on. The Indian Press, and specially the Native section of it, cannot therefore but feel alarmed that by the Bill under notice it is proposed not only to make the provisions of the Act of 1889 more effective, but to extend its scope to civil matters as well."

After quoting the Hon'ble Mr. Arundel's remarks when asking permission to introduce the Bill, the *Tribune* continues :—

"There is no light thrown in the above as to the special circumstances which have led to the introduction of the Bill. And unless the circumstances are made clear in the course of the discussion that is to come off, the public cannot be kept from imputing rather unworthy motives to the origin of the Bill. Of late a number of secret proceedings and orders of the Government have been dragged into the light of day, such as those relating to the Delhi Conference, the employment of Natives in the Telegraph, Military and Foreign Departments, &c., and as these proceedings and orders cannot be justified on any principles of justice or equity, those responsible for them must have felt their position awkward when the disclosures were made. And unless an adequate statement be given of the circumstances which furnish justification for the framing of the new measure, showing that these circumstances involve danger to the country, the public will trace its motive to the anxiety of the authors of the proceedings and orders above mentioned to pursue their dark and devious ways without being hauled up for criticism or called to account. As it is, every sane man must admit that the Indian Press by giving publicity to the orders and proceedings in question have rendered a service to the Government by giving timely warning of chances of public discontent and affording it (the Government) an opportunity to reconsider its action. And if either the object or the effect of the new Bill be to check publicity being given to such questionable acts of the Government, then we must confess the educated Indian public may well say that they are very near having an experience of Czardom, and that the British Government of India is contemplating the initiation of a new policy with regard to the people of the country that cannot bear the light of day. We are slow to impute motives, and we still entertain the hope that Lord Curzon, now that his reputation for statesmanship is passing through a fiery ordeal, will not furnish such a handle in the hands of his enemies as will be afforded by the proposed

amendment of the Official Secrets Act without satisfactory reasons being shown for it. And in order that such reasons may be shown it is necessary that the Bill be not hurried through, but be considered leisurely so that whatever may be said for or against it may have a full chance of being heard. Surely, the country is not in imminent danger for want of the proposed amendments to the Official Secrets Act!"

VII.—General Administration.

(c)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

The reorganisation of the Cantonment Magistrates Department.

19. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, publishes the substance of the Government resolution regarding the reorganisation of the Cantonment Magistrates' Department, and says—

"We are afraid, however, the character of the service as a whole will not be appreciably improved until a higher ideal of life and a nobler standard of duty are inculcated into its members than are available from military messes and Cantonment Clubs."

(e)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Government and the zamindars.

20. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the "Government of India" regrets to behold a deer, labelled "Zamindar," having its life-blood sucked by the lion of "indebtedness and usury." The letter-press runs as follows:—

"The zamindar being the back-bone of the Government should not be allowed to fall a prey to sahukars. Instead of lamenting his lot the authorities should open Agricultural Banks to advance him money on low rates of interest."

(h)—*Miscellaneons.*

Assaults by Europeans on Natives.

21. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, commenting on the acquittal of Mr. Bain, the Silchar Tea-planter, by Mr. Justice Sale of the Calcutta High Court, makes the following remarks:—

"So Mr. Bain was vindicated, and the Government of Bengal non-plussed, with a vengeance indeed! We are not as a rule in favour of re-trials for the enhancement of sentence, and probably Mr. Bain, if not adequately punished, had had enough of sentence in his six months' imprisonment to make him and his fellow-planters of similar disposition with him to think less lightly of the lives of coolies in future. But what we are concerned at is the effect that Mr. Justice Sale's order, and specially the manner of its delivery, is likely to have on the minds of the lay public. How can people, excepting those who are directly interested in it, retain any respect for a system of judicial administration in which the most contrary decisions may be arrived at by different Judges, and orders affecting the lives and liberties of people may be passed or reversed with no more ceremony than if Court proceedings were a matter of joke and the whole system of legal administration a mere farce? To-day a Sessions Judge passes the extreme penalty of the law upon a prisoner, whom the High Court lets off to-morrow without allowing even a single hair of his head to be touched. In both cases we have 'learned Judges' drawing high salaries, but the one was going to send to eternity a probably innocent man, while the other as likely saved a scoundrel from the gallows; and we are asked to admire a system which while squeezing the people dry of their money has made the name of justice a synonym for unreliability added to harassment. Here we have a case in which a

European prisoner was committed to the Sessions by a European Deputy Commissioner, and was tried by a European Judge with the aid of jury consisting of a majority of Europeans. The conviction and sentence were considered inadequate not only by the general public, but by a Government officered by Europeans and advised by a European Advocate-General. And yet Mr. Justice Sale from his high pedestal of the High Court pronounces the whole thing to have been a mistake, and acquits the prisoner, who was placed before him for additional sentence, even on the charge on which he had been previously convicted. What are people to think of such exhibitions of fickleness and uncertainty in the name of Justice? When Mr. Bain was received by his friends with cheers, Mr. Justice Sale sharply directed that 'order be observed in the Court.' But when Justice herself becomes fickle and disorderly, what is the good of maintaining superficial order in Court? The pomposity of Judicial utterances is sometimes in the direct ratio to the ridiculousness of the decisions."

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th August 1903, after publishing a short sketch of the public career of the late Lord Salisbury, says that he did more harm to the Turks than even Mr. Gladstone, the avowed enemy of Islam and the Quran. He was also a firm supporter of the bigoted policy that countries which have once been under the sway of the Cross should not be restored to the Crescent. It was in pursuance of this deep-rooted prejudice that Lord Salisbury insisted upon the restoration of Thessaly to the Greeks after the last Turko-Greek War. The combined action taken by the Powers in regard to Crete—practically wresting it from the Porte—is also attributable to the late Premier. In short, throughout his life, his Lordship was a determined enemy of the Turks. As a special Envoy to the Conference of European Powers held at Constantinople and again as British delegate at the Berlin Congress he did more harm than even the Russian Ambassador to the Turkish Government. Nor is this all. He was not satisfied till he had quite upset the foreign policy of Lords Palmerston and Beaconsfield as regards the Porte, with the result that if a war were now to break out between England and Russia, the former could not count upon the co-operation of her old friends, the Turks, who are ready to take the field with a force of 3,000,000 men. Besides, his failure to successfully grapple with the Venezuelan crisis precipitated by President Cleveland's message was also chiefly due to the late Marquis having been engrossed at the time in the Armenian question. The Editor concludes by expressing the hope that the British Government will, by abandoning the late Premier's policy, again renew its old friendly relations with the Sultan.

The late Lord Salisbury and the Turks.

2. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 2nd September 1903, writing about the Tibetan Mission, says that, in dealing with the Mongols, promptitude should be the guiding principle of our action, seeing that the latter, if left to themselves, will never come to a decision. The proper attitude for the Mission to adopt, in the present circumstances, would be to convince the Chinese Government, by word and deed, that they are in earnest about the matter.

The Tibetan Mission.

3. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 31st August 1903, writing on the same subject, asks the Government whether it consulted the Tibetan authorities before despatching the Mission. The Government is, adds the Editor, evidently averse to provoking hostilities with the followers of the Lama, otherwise it would not be difficult to bring the Tibetans to their senses. It would look very awkward, however, if the Mission turned out a failure.

The same.

4. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd August 1903, says that affairs in the near East have of late assumed a menacing aspect. Incendiary movements are growing apace, and there is much unrest in Macedonia. The Turks, however, are quite prepared to grapple with the situation. They can, at a moment's notice, overrun the whole Province. It is to be regretted that while the Sultan's Army is waiting for orders to try conclusions with the Bulgarians, the latter are engaged in burning unprotected Muhammadan villages and putting the helpless villagers to the sword. The insurgents seem to repose too great faith in the support of their Russian ally. But if the latter were precipitated into a war with Turkey, she would find her scheme in China completely upset by Japan. It cannot be doubted for a moment that if a war were to break out it would be a final trial of strength between Turkey and her old enemy Russia, and would seal the fate of hundreds of petty States.

Bulgaria and Turkey.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th August 1903, says that the Bulgarian Ministry is opposed to breaking with Turkey. But if they were not so amicably disposed, the Turks are strong enough to read them a lesson which it would take them some time to forget. Besides, a war with Turkey would cost the Bulgarians the Province of Eastern Roumelia, thereby reversing the favourite dictum of Lord Salisbury that that which has been under the Cross will not be yielded to the Crescent. The Sultan may be counted upon, however, to hold his conquests this time with a firm grip. But in case of the Bulgarian Government adhering to its resolution of non-interference, the Turks will have less trouble in making short work of the insurgents. It is rather unlucky for the last-named that they have spread themselves over an expanse of several hundred miles (from Adrianople to Florina (?)), for in their present condition they cannot easily escape into the mountains from the pursuit of Turkish troops.

The same.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th August 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	14,959	6	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	20	0	10
Total	...	14,979	7	9

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 28th August 1903, acknowledges the following small subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 21st August 1903	...	574	4	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	50	0	0
Total	...	624	4	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,622	2	7

8. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1903, acknowledges the following small subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	845	9	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	28	0	0
Total	...	873	9	0

(*b*)—*Home.*

9. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 23rd August 1903, says that in one of his speeches Mr. Chamberlain observed that foreign merchants should be required to pay enhanced duties. Such a step, however, being fatal to free trade, all Europe is exercised over the question of Mr. Chamberlain's proposals, which would considerably injure foreign trade. It does not require much ingenuity to guess what particular country is aimed at by the Colonial Secretary. But as public opinion is on the whole opposed to his views, it is very unlikely that the protection scheme will be carried out. The Editor then exhorts his countrymen to take a lesson from the above and, in future, evince more interest in matters relating to their country.

Preferential Tariffs.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd August 1903, writing about the proposed South African Reserve scheme, asks how it is that Lord Curzon was not consulted in a matter which directly concerned India. It is to be wished that the rights and powers of the Viceroy were fully defined. Are there certain affairs which can be settled by the Secretary of State for India without consulting the Viceroy ? If so, who is to be held responsible for their good or evil effects in this country ?

The Government of India and the cost of the South African Reserve.

11. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, publishes a cartoon in which Mr. Brodrick and Lord George Hamilton are seen busily engaged in lighting a fire under a cauldron labelled " The Army Scheme for the Transvaal." The letter-press runs as follows :—

The same.

" The Parliament has thrown cold water on the project emanating from the War Secretary and supported by Lord George Hamilton. The Government of India also stood manfully to its guns in protesting against the scheme."

12. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st August 1903, reprints the substance of an article from the *Aligarh Institute Gazette*, which, after pointing out the mistaken policy of certain members of the Congress in adversely criticising every Government movement, exhorts the Muhammadan political organisation to scrupulously abstain from such tactics. Its objects should be to popularise Government measures, remove popular misunderstandings in connection therewith and respectfully lay the grievances of the people—and that too on rare occasions—before the Government. The *Gazette* expresses the hope that Muhammadans all over India will contribute to the success of the movement by participating in it.

Muhammadans and politics.

13. The following appears in the *Arya Messenger* (Lahore), of the 11th September 1903 :—

Government and religious neutrality.

"Under the marginally-noted heading ('Wanton waste of forty-five lakhs per annum') the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* furnishes a piece of valuable information, which would nearly startle many of us, and let us ask the question 'If this is the religious neutrality preached and advocated in the following passage of the Proclamation of 1858?'—

"'We do strictly charge and enjoin on all those, who may be in authority under us, that they abstain from all interferences with the religious beliefs and worships of any of our subjects on pain of our highest displeasure.'

"Princely salaries given to the Christian Bishops, Archdeacons, Chaplains and other miscellaneous items, which amount to nearly forty-five lakhs per annum, are charged on Indian revenue in order to breed up Christian missions in India. If such is the generous attitude of the Government, which openly preaches religious neutrality towards Christian missions, what faults have other religious bodies done, that the money of their own country is not given to them for propagating their religious tenets and propaganda among the Indian people. The princely salaries also mark a very great difference on the sanctity attached to the preaching work in the East and the West. While all the great religious teachers and mendicants in India have been proverbially starving and taking vows of self-denial from all worldly enjoyments in order to effectively preach their beliefs, the Christian prelates enjoy on the costly paraphernalia at the cost of the poor famishing Indians. Perhaps nowhere else such a horrible spectacle can be seen. The list furnished by the *A. B. P.* runs as follows :—

"'Here is another table showing the salaries paid to Bishops and other dignitaries of Anglican Church per month :—

	Rs.
"'Bishop of Calcutta	3,831
"' Ditto Madras	2,131
"' Ditto Bombay	2,131
"' Ditto Colombo	1,000
"' Ditto Rangoon	1,000
"' Ditto Lahore	1,000
"' Ditto Travancore	1,000
"' Ditto Cochin	1,000
"' Ditto Tinnevelly...	1,000
"' Ditto Nagpore	1,000
"' Ditto Chota Nagpore	1,000
"' Ditto Lucknow	1,000
"'One Roman Catholic Bishop	1,350
"'Bishop of Palamcotta	1,000
"'Ten Archdeacons at rupees eight hundred each ...	8,000

	Rs.
"'Four Archdeacons at rupees seven hundred each ...	2,800
"'Thirty-six Chaplains at rupees eight hundred each ...	28,800
"'Twenty-five Chaplains on probation at rupees four hundred each	10,000
"'Forty Junior Chaplains in field service	20,000
"'Fifty Senior Chaplains for hospitals, sanctuaries and cemeteries, &c.	40,000
"'Crown establishment	30,000
"'Office establishment	20,000
"'Church and chapel repairs	5,000
"'Travelling allowances...	4,000
"'Special grants	2,000
"'Miscellaneous	2,500

"'Nor is this all. Add to these figures many others in the shape of pensions, endowments, gratuities and charities. Besides that, we have to take into consideration other items such as the establisement's contribution to Bible societies, hospitals, destitute mission families, mission schools and colleges, cemetery grounds, the erection of churches and chapels, the purchase of lands for mission compounds, and so forth. When all these items are added up the amount will come up to something like forty-five lakhs of rupees a year!'

"We have yet to add a few items more. In addition to privilege leave, which is one month for every five months' work, as well as leave on 'urgent private affairs'—in either form of these leaves the recipients are entitled to full pay—the bishops and priests who have rendered seven years' service have the privilege of getting two years' furlough which, on medical certificate, may be extended to three years!

"Now, fancy the queer situation. The Christian priests minister to the Christian servants of the Government and preach against the religions of the Hindus and the Muhammadans; and those damned are compelled to find the pay and pensions of those who damn them! Can anybody point out such an arrangement anywhere in the world! How would the Christians feel if the position were reversed, and they were compelled to maintain Hindu priests and Muhammadan Mullahs for the benefit of the Hindu and Muhammadan servants of the Government? The real fact is, the Ecclesiastical Establishment is another fine hunting-ground for the English middle classes. The sons of the middle class Englishmen are sent out here either as soldiers or Civilians, and similarly they are employed here as Christian preachers at the cost of India. And what they have now got to do is to follow the example of the members of the other services and raise the cry of increase of their salaries in the name of the depreciated rupee!"

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Government and the Amir.

14. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, says that the Amir has now, in a way, openly declared himself in favour of Russia by giving very unsatisfactory answers to the questions put to him by the Government of India. As His Highness' reply is tantamount to asserting that he would rather side with the Russians than the British, the latter would be well advised to sever all friendly relations with Kabul.

III.—Native States.

Lord Curzon's proposed visit to Kashmir postponed.

15. The *Edward Gazette* (Qasur), of the 26th August 1903, remarks that the visit of a Viceroy to a Native State is by no means an ordinary event. It is therefore a piece of good luck for Kashmir that Lord Curzon, in consideration of the distressed condition of the State, has postponed his proposed visit to Srinagar.

IV.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

Female education and its baneful consequences.

16. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 21st August 1903, publishes a communication from one Khadim Husain of Lavar who calls upon the advocates of female education in India to take a lesson from the evil consequences that have resulted in Europe and America from such education. A hankering after freedom and immodesty may be cited among its necessary concomitants. The increasing demand for hospitals to maintain unclaimed bastards is also the result of this education. Again, in Paris there is many a beautiful lady who would rather lead a single life than submit to the pains of child-birth by contracting a marriage. In Germany cases of abortion are so common that an old lady was known to have killed some 500 bastards during her life. In the United States alone the number of widows in 1850 amounted to 50,000, which has since increased six-fold. The vice of drinking is also on the increase among literate women. If such are some of the results of female education, Indian women had better remain ignorant.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

Grievances of third-class passengers.

17. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st September 1903, says that Lord Curzon will fully deserve his extension of office if among the various reforms initiated by him His Excellency succeeds in removing the grievances of third-class passengers. The Editor goes on to say that instead of devoting their columns to foreign affairs, the Native Press would be well advised to attend to matters nearer home. How is it that in spite of the orders of the Government, third-class carriages are not provided with latrines? Again, no adequate provision has, so far, been made to remove complaints in connection with the defective arrangement for drinking water and overcrowding, &c. After suggesting that tickets should be sold, like postage stamps, in the bazars and that at least three watermen should be detailed to each Railway Station, the Editor calls upon the Manager of the North-Western Railway in particular, and of other lines in general, to follow the example of Mr. Pope of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway in looking after the comforts of third class passengers.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneons.*

Social intercourse between Native and European women.

18. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1903, publishes a communication from one "Mrs. 'Aun Ali", who says that the importance of freer intercourse between European and Native ladies cannot be overrated. Besides benefiting the parties concerned, such a state of things will also conduce

to the permanence and stability of the Government by fostering a spirit of unity and friendship between its Native and European subjects. It is, however, to be regretted, adds the writer, that, notwithstanding their civilisation, European ladies do not show sufficient regard for their Native sisters. On the contrary, they display marked predilection for the society of their countrywomen, and do not scruple to cut a Native friend when a European is at hand. The same holds good in the case of English gentlemen and their friends, although there are here and there a few noble exceptions. The writer, however, is of opinion that unless European ladies behave with more sincerity towards their Native friends, and the latter lay aside some of their religious prejudices, mere " At Homes " or social gatherings cannot bring about the desired result. If the former were to take the initiative in the matter they could confidently rely upon the support and co-operation of their Native sisters in this country.

Worn two-and four-anna pieces not accepted by shopkeepers.

19. A correspondent writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th August 1903, complains that the practice obtaining among shopkeepers and others of refusing to accept worn two-and four-anna pieces is a source of considerable inconvenience to the public. After remarking that it has been proclaimed by beat of drum in Mooltan that any one refusing to accept such coins will be liable to punishment with imprisonment and fine, the writer requests Government to issue similar orders in other districts of the Province. He adds that the Railway booking offices sometimes decline to take rupees coined in 1840 to the great inconvenience of passengers.

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[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 19th September 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

England and Russia.

1. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, says that a Russian invasion of India is apprehended, seeing that Russia is slowly but steadily advancing towards this country. The English must thank themselves for the present state of affairs. Had they followed the advice of Lord Beaconsfield and formed a permanent Muhammadan buffer State in Central Asia, Russia's advance would have been stopped in its early stages. But, unfortunately for India, religious bigotry got the better of common sense, with the result that Lord Beaconsfield had to abandon his proposal in the face of the agitation raised against it by Mr. Gladstone and his fellow-thinkers. Now that all obstacles have been removed from the path of Russia, she has advanced as far as the Pamirs. If this state of things continues, the day is not far off when the prophecy made in the *Lahore Chronicle* some 35 years ago regarding two great powers (Russia and England) coming to blows on the Western coast of India will be fulfilled. The prophecy, however, must be modified as far as the place of invasion is concerned, for at present more than one vulnerable point is exposed to Russian invasion, of which the Pamirs is the most accessible. It is to be regretted that through the religious bigotry of some of her Statesmen, England has lost the friendship of Turkey and Persia, the only two powers which could have effectually checked Russia. Both these powers are now under the Czar's influence. The Editor, after remarking that even now England has a very favourable opportunity to regain Turkey's friendship by interfering in her behalf in the present insurrectionary movements in the Near East, concludes by observing that it is owing to the loss of such faithful friends and allies that the *Civil and Military Gazette* has to propose the increase of land revenue to meet the cost of the defences of our Indian Frontier.

Turkey and the Christian nations.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, after giving a brief history of the past greatness of the Ottoman Empire, remarks that at present it has come to such a pass that every Foreign power is seeking to pick a quarrel with it. While Russia strongly objected to American interfer-

ence in her internal affairs in connection with the recent Kishinieff massacres, Turkey is quite helpless to resent such interference. European Powers can enquire with impunity into her internal affairs and incite disturbances in the country. Turkey has, however, brought this upon herself by the generous policy of her former rulers, who, in order to conciliate their Christian subjects, made them various concessions and even allowed Foreign Powers to establish Post Offices in Constantinople, which are proving particularly obnoxious to the Sultan's Government in the present crisis.

Turkey and Macedonia.

3. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1903, writes :—

"The latest telegrams relating to the Macedonian troubles will show that no skill or effort is being spared to work up anti-Turk feeling in Christendom. If the Turks deal cruelly with the Christian rebels, they have sufficient provocation. In fact, the declared object of the latter is to goad the former into fury, so that they may be impelled to do things which will force the Christian Powers to intervene. From all telegrams and reports, however, it would appear as if the Turks were the wolves and the rebel Komitajis (of Macedonia) bleating lambs! But truth will out. We have often tried to show what the real situation is in Macedonia. It is not the 'oppressed' Christians rising against their oppressors, but marauding tribes desparately struggling to make capital out of the anti-Turk feeling in Christendom. * * *"

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 28th August 1903	...	624	4	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	10	0	0
Total	...	634	4	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	4
GRAND TOTAL	...	11,632	2	4

The same.

5. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand ...	... ...	873	9	0
Small subscriptions	... ...	14	8	0
Total	...	888	1	0

IV.—KINE-KILLING.

Christian Governments and the protection of cows.

6. The *Sanatan Dharam Gazette* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1903, says that the question of the protection of kine is no longer one that concerns the Hindus alone. The *Rajputana Gazette* of Ajmere writing on the subject says that the Christian Governments of South Africa, Australia, Canada, etc., recognising the importance of this animal for agricultural purposes,

are passing stringent measures to ensure its protection. The Editor fervently prays that the said duty may be realised by all European Powers so that the number of cows may multiply.

V.—Native Societies and Religious matters.

The Khalsa people and the use of beef.

7. The *Khalsa Bahadur* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, writing about Mr. Macauliffe's lectures on Sikhism, says that some of the remarks made by the lecturer about the Khalsa people and the use of beef have occasioned considerable misunderstanding. As a matter of fact Mr. Macauliffe could not have expressed himself on that point in clearer or more unambiguous terms. What he meant to say was that the Sikhs were not quite so sensitive as the Hindus in regard to the slaughter of cows. For instance, the latter would not even eat certain vegetables the names of which begin with *gaf*, the first letter in *gai* (cow). In the same way some of them abstain from the use of *masur* pulse because it is the colour of blood. They also regard cow-dung and cow urine as sacred. The Sikhs, on the contrary, do not go to such lengths in their reverence for this animal, although they agree with the Hindus in considering it a very useful one. Mr. Macauliffe's words therefore simply implied that the Sikhs were not as irrational on the subject as the followers of the Vedas; and he was certainly right in thinking so. The Editor then refers to the valuable service rendered by the lecturer to the followers of the Guru by translating their scriptures, and expresses the hope that Sikh Rajas and *Raises* will extend their patronage to this work.

VI.—Legislation.

The Bill to amend the Official Secrets Act.

8. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 6th September 1903, says that the amendment proposed to be made in the Indian Official Secrets Act would be a great blow to the Native Press. The Bengali papers have already raised an outcry against the measure. It is to be regretted, however, that the public at large take no interest in the matter. They are quite indifferent to the fate of their Press. But it may be asked, Who will bring their complaints and grievances to the notice of the Government if the newspapers are gagged?

The same.

9. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), the 5th September 1903, says that the Government, with a view to prevent the Native Press from learning its confidential orders, like the one about the more general employment of Eurasians and Christians in the Railway Department, has decided to amend the Official Secrets Act. The policy which suggested the passing of the Act was wrong, as it keeps the public in the dark.

The same.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, says that if the Official Secrets Bill, introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. Arundel, is passed into law, it will not only prove highly injurious to the liberty of the Native Press, but will also mar Lord Curzon's reputation as a liberal and high-minded statesman. The said Bill was passed by Lord Lansdowne's Government when some of its official correspondence regarding the proposed annexa-

tion of Gilgit was published in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*. This curtailment of public liberty gave that Government an evil reputation in the eyes of all educated Indians. There is an English Secrets Act, adds the Editor, but that is confined to matters relating to the army. The case of India, however, is quite different. There are no army secrets to be concealed from the spies of Foreign Powers. But even if there were, why should civil news be included in the proposed legislation ? The Hon'ble member in proposing the Bill in its amended form lays the burden of proof of receiving information with lawful authority or permission on the person charged under Section 2 of the Act. What has led him to propose the amendment ? The publication of the secret proceedings of the Dehli Railway Conference has something to do with the matter. It is to be hoped that Lord Curzon will give the Native Press an opportunity of making known their objections against the Bill to the authorities.

The same.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th September 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that Lord Curzon is presumably not satisfied with commemorating his rule by the annexation of, and undue interference in the internal affairs, of Native States. The affairs of the Berars are still fresh when His Lordship has surprised the public with a still more startling announcement, which is no less than the amendment of the India Official Secrets Act. While, on the one side, Lord Kitchener is advocating strong measures to prevent the public from commenting upon Military affairs, Lord Curzon, on the other side, is about to pursue a similar policy in the case of civil matters. It is strange that while the British Government, after the lapse of a certain period, publishes all its secret correspondence in Blue Books for the information of the public, the Government of India should be so unreasonably alarmed to find its secret correspondence about Kashmir being brought to light by a certain newspaper, as to propose special legislation on the subject.

The same.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 7th September 1903, writing on the same subject, says that the Bill will not be hurried through the Council. The Editor adds that although the proposed amendment is a useful measure for preventing the leaking out of official secrets, it is desirable that the public should be given an opportunity of expressing their views on the Bill before it is passed into law.

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Rig Veda prescribed as a text-book for the B. A. Classes of the Punjab University.

13. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st September 1903, says that the Hindu community strongly protest against the inclusion of a part of the Rig Veda as a text-book for the B. A. classes, seeing that the European Professors who teach the subject, usually interpret it according to Western writers, whose interpretation is not accepted by orthodox Hindus. Besides, the language used in the Vedas being antiquated and difficult, the Professors are often incapable of making a correct translation, thereby misleading students and injuring the feelings of the Hindus. Again, according to the followers of

the *Sanatan Dharam* only the high-born and the learned are qualified to teach the Vedas. As other religious books, adds the Editor, are not prescribed as text-books, there is no reason why an exception should be made in the case of the sacred books of the Hindus.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

How to ameliorate the condition of the zamindars.

14. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 1st September 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that the present deplorable condition of the agricultural classes may be attributed to the following causes :—

(1). The alienation of their land by *Sahukars.* (The Government has, however, earned the gratitude of agriculturists by passing the Land Alienation Act to rescue them from the hands of their rapacious creditors).

(2). There is no limit to the rate of interest zamindars have to pay. Not infrequently they are ruined by exhorbitant rates decreed against them by Munsifs and Revenue Officers, who are generally co-religionists of the *Sahukars.*

(3). The litigious habits of the zamindars. The Limitation Act and the Pleaders are in a great measure responsible for the present state of things. It could, however, be remedied to a great extent if Government increased the period of the limitation of suits and precluded Pleaders from appearing in Civil Courts.

(4). Court fees sometimes prove too heavy for a poor man to seek redress through courts of law. And although a man is entitled to sue *in forma pauperis*, it is by no means an easy matter to establish one's insolvency to the satisfaction of the Courts. The safest course therefore would be to revert to the old system of trial by *panchayat.*

(*h*)—*Miscellaneons.*

The Vernacular Press and Native States.

15. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th September 1903, says that the articles published in vernacular newspapers on Native States are generally quite untrustworthy. It is to be regretted that the Press should fail to realise its responsibility in this respect and give publicity to statements which are not borne out by actual facts. Not infrequently they run down Native rulers, who are held in great esteem by the Government. They should bear in mind that Government is anxions to see reforms introduced into Native States so that the State subjects may flourish and prosper under their respective rulers. There is a general impression that vernacular newspapers, as a rule, have some private object in view in writing about the affairs of Native States. The Editor concludes by exhorting his contemporaries to be guided by the principles of truth and honesty in criticising Native administration.

The Benares Ivory Furniture.

16. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th September 1903, says that after the publication of His Highness Prabhu Narain Singh's letter, any further comment on the subject would be quite superfluous. Mrs. Smeaton

must have some personal grudge to satisfy against the Viceroy, for, otherwise it is not easy to understand why the matter was brought to light after two years and a half. Again, Mrs. Smeaton's allegation that the furniture was priced at Rs. 15,000 by the Superintendent of the Arts School, Calcutta, is contradicted by Mr. Holwell, the authority referred to by her. The Editor then reprints the Raja's letter published in the *Pioneer*.

The same.

17. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1903, writing about the Benares Ivory Furniture incident, says that the Raja of Benares' letter published in the *Pioneer* is a complete contradiction of Mrs. Smeaton's version of the story. The Editor is glad to find that the letter in question removes a serious misunderstanding by completely exonerating His Excellency of the charge brought against him.

The same.

18. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th September 1903, writing on the same subject, says that Lord Curzon certainly made a mistake in buying the Benares Ivory Furniture.

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[Vol. XVI.] [No. 38.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 26th September 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 8th September 1903, says that the unrest in the Balkans has reached an acute stage and will be watched with intense anxiety by those interested in the future of the Turkish Empire. The enemies of the Ottoman Government having been frustrated in their efforts to turn the Turks out of Europe—one of the chief aims of the late Mr. Gladstone's life—have changed their tactics and are now working for a disruption of that empire under the pretence of philanthrophy. It, would, however, be bad policy for England to break with Turkey, seeing that her amicable relations with the Turks are calculated to win the hearts of millions of her Muhammadan subjects. In the circumstances England had better not adopt sham excuses for interfering in the affairs of Turkey.

The unrest in the Balkans.

2. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1903, says that sometimes it is erroneously supposed that Russia is an insignificant factor in Eastern politices and that the Muscovite Government is too much engrossed in its internal affairs to think of any territorial entension in Asia. This is far from being true. Russia has recently acquired a very big province in China which exceeds in area England and France taken together. It is rich in mineral products, which if fully developed will make Russia a formidable rival of England in the East. It is significant that although both the European powers and America watched the movements of their rival with suspicion, they could not prevent Russia from taking firm hold of Manchuria. The worst of it is that the Russian Bear instead of being satisfied with his present prey is preparing for a further onslaught. His proverbial hug is making itself felt in the case of the Celestial Empire, seeing that it has already lost two of its important provinces, Manchuria and Mongoha. It is to be apprehended that even the continent of India may not prove too much for the Bear's insatiable appetite. During the recent Pekin disturbance while the armies and men of foreign powers were engaged in despoiling Royal palaces and shops and dishonouring women, thereby bringing disgrace upon

Russia in the Fast East.

their civilisation, Russia was too astute to be satisfied with mere plunder. The Editor then quotes the substance of an article from the *Contemporary Review* emanating from the pen of Dr. Alexander Ular (?) (a reliable authority on Eastern politics) to show how Russia is slowly and steadily advancing in the East.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 4th September 1903...	634	4	0
Small subscriptions	48	15	0
Total ...	683	3	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	4
GRAND TOTAL ...	11,681	1	4

(*b*)—*Home.*

Government and religious neutrality.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1903, says that since 1812 a department known as the "Indian Ecclesiastical Establishment" is maintained at the expense of the Indian revenues. The cost of this establishment is 45 lakhs of rupees per annum. After remarking that it is anything but just that the money of India should be given to the bishops whose duty it is to refute the religious doctrines of the natives of this country, the Editor suggests that having regard to the principle of religious neutrality Government should make similar arrangements for the expenses of religious teachers of other sects.

British rule and its blessings.

5. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 7th September 1903, writing about the tragic end of Mulla Abdul Latif of Ghazni (*vide* paragraph 12 of Selections No. 35) says that the following two questions naturally suggest themselves on hearing the sentence passed against the Mulla :—Is it right to kill an innocent person ? Should change of religion be punished with death ? The Editor then proceeds to remark that the subjects of the British Government enjoy perfect liberty in the matter of religion. It does not stone to death or blow from guns those who profess other than the State religion. Not infrequently vernacular papers indulge in scurrilous and unbecoming remarks against Jesus Christ, yet the Government never punishes the offenders in this respect with a sentence of death. There is, however, nothing surprising in the despotic Government of the Amir punishing heresy in so terrible a manner. The writer concludes by remarking that the above reasons lead him to pray for the stability of British rule.

The eight Khans of Baluchistan in Russian territory.

6. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 14th September 1903, after remarking that eight Khans of Baluchistan went to the Russian authorities at Ashiqabad and complained that the British Government was encroaching upon their liberty, remarks that the Russian Press, which already looked upon the

Siestan Commission with suspicion, was sure to make much of the matter. But Russia has no business to interfere. It is as absurd for the Khans to complain to the Russian Government as it would be for the people of Manchuria to pray for British intervention. It was quite natural on the part of the British Government to extend its boundary beyond Baluchistan, seeing that Russia is following a similar policy towards Turkistan. She has already possessed herself of Manchuria, and is now looking with longing eyes on Korea. The Editor then goes on to say that had there been no British rule in Baluchistan, the Khans of Kalat would have found it difficult to lead a life of peace and comfort, and he concludes by quoting the various sums paid by the Government to the Khans for the occupation of Quetta, the Bolan Pass, &c., &c.

The same.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th September 1903, writing on the same subject, says that the Government is not guilty of any injustice towards the Baloch Sardars, who have recently sought shelter with the Russian authorities. It gives them Rs. 25,000 for Quetta, Rs. 30,000 for the Bolan, Rs. 9,000 for the Seistan road and Rs. 1,15,000 per annum for the newly acquired tracts. In the circumstances any interference on the part of Russia would be quite uncalled for.

Lord Curzon and his work in India.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th September 1903, reproduces a letter headed "Shiv Shambo to Lord Curzon" which appeared in the *Makhzan* (Lahore), and says that this is the sort of thing that hitherto only Bengali newspapers have been in the habit of publishing. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* hopes that the Editor of the *Makhzan* does not endorse the views expressed by his correspondent. In the letter "Shiv Shambo" says that in his childhood he dreamt dreams of nightingales and magic palaces that float in mid air and that from these dreams he awoke to the realities of life. Lord Curzon's work in India is likened to these dreams, and His Excellency is asked whether he has ever done anything of real utility since his arrival in the country. The writer says that the Viceroy in his last budget speech referred to the proposed Victoria Memorial Hall and the Delhi Darbar as his two greatest works: these are described as "works of show," the first of which may be visited once or twice in a lifetime by rich people, but is of no use to the country; while as to the Darbar, it may have been an important thing in the eyes of the Viceroy, but to the people of India it was nothing more than a dream. It is Akbar's person and not his throne that has a place in the hearts of the people, and Shahjehan is remembered for his personal qualities rather than for the famous Peacock Throne,—and so on.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Mr. Macauliffe's lectures on Sikhism.

9. The *Khalsa Advocate* (Amritsar), of the 20th September 1903, writes as follows:—

"The lectures of Mr. Macauliffe in Simla have recently created some sensation among our Hindu brethren. Some misunderstandings on the part of the *Tribune* in commenting upon these lectures have made him protest against them and waste a good deal of his energy for nothing. It is for the most part to his utter inacquaintance with the Sikh Scriptures and Sikh religion. He forgets for the time being that an unbiassed mind will state exactly what he sees in the mirror, but a prejudiced heart will ever hesitate to admire even the best thing of its kind because he has a certain personal

grudge with its maker. Similarly the Editor of the *Tribune*, having tested the words of the lectures on the touchstone of Vedism, which have a predominant place in his heart, failed to fully realise the truth of Sikhism as stated in the learned lectures. The lecturer honestly stated his opinions about Sikhism which he arrived at after years of diligent and deliberate study and at the expense of an exorbitant amount of money; while the *Tribune* took up his pen and girt up his loin to comment upon it without devoting even a single day towards the study of Sikhism."

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets Bill.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1903, says that it is very gratifying to learn that His Excellency does not intend dealing at once with the Bill to amend the Official Secrets Act. The Viceroy wishes to give the public and the Press time to express their opinions on the proposed amendment. After remarking that the Viceroy himself was once connected with the Press and that he is fully cognisant of the importance and responsibilities of public organs, the Editor feels confident that Lord Curzon will not give his consent to the proposed amendment, which is calculated to strike at the very root of the liberty of the Press.

The same.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th September 1903, remarks that the passing of the Bill to amend the Official Secrets Act is calculated to prove more injurious to the Native than the English Press and that Government intends taking such extensive and unlimited powers into its own hands as will materially affect the rights of the public. The Editor then quotes an extract from the *Hindustani*, remarking that it is anything but just to extend the operation of the Act to Civil secrets. If the Bill were passed into law no Editor in future would dare criticise the acts of an official with the object of protecting the rights of the country, with the result that the liberty of the press and the public would be unduly interfered with and the former would not be able to perform its functions. It is hoped that the Bill will not be passed into law before the people are allowed to express their opinion on the measure.

The Poisons Bill.

12. The *Punjab Organ* of the 7th September 1903, says that it is very necessary that the Bill to regulate the sale of poisons should be passed into law, seeing that the indiscriminate sale of these drugs is causing considerable loss of life. Not only the sale of poisonous drugs, but also that of unwholesome and adulterated articles of food and drink, should be subjected to restrictions, as these greatly affect the public health. It is also desirable that Municipalities should appoint Inspectors of Food who should take legal proceedings against those who sell unwholesome articles. The Editor suggests that a Bill regulating the sale of articles of food and drink should also be introduced into the Council.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

Mr. Rennick's case.

13. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th September 1903, writing about Mr. Rennick's case, remarks that the natives are grateful that justice has been done in the case by awarding some punishment to the guilty person who was a European. The Editor asks if this punishment would have been sufficient if a Native had been found guilty of a similar offence against a European.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneons.*

Assaults by Europeans on Natives.

14. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 22nd September 1903, in commenting on an Editorial which appeared in the *Pioneer* recently on the subject of the liberty of the Native Press in connection with the discussion of *sub judice* cases, and in which the *Tribune* was taken to task for the scandalous impropriety with which it had treated the Rennick assault case, makes the following remarks :—

" * * * The *Pioneer* broadly hints that the authorities may be led some day to make an example of some of these Native journalists by bringing them under the section for contempt of Court. It may be so, but the *Pioneer* should not be blind to the fact that the policy it and other Anglo-Indian papers would like our Courts to follow in respect of these growing cases of assault would, if the advice were accepted, soon make these Courts an object of *deserved contempt*. It would show to the people that Courts which failed to convict first-class offenders, or were disposed to let them go lightly, were anxious to uphold their mutilated dignity by punishing innocent and respectable citizens on mere technical grounds; and it would snap the last tie of respect that binds the Indian to British rule."

In regard to the Bain case, the *Tribune* writes thus :—

" The Advocate-General's opinion having been obtained, the Government of India directed the Chief Commissioner of Assam to instruct the Law Officers of the Government to file an appeal against the acquittal on the charge of causing grievous hurt to Lalsa, and in the alternative to move the High Court, in the exercise of its revisional jurisdiction, to enhance the sentence on the conviction of simple hurt. The result of the motion is now well known. But though the large body of the Anglo-Indians are triumphing over the acquittal of Mr. Bain, and are calling the Native journalists all sorts of names, the latter have ample consolation in the acute anxiety of the Government of India, revealed in the above extract, to uphold the cause of justice in collisions between the powerful Anglo-Indian and the helpless Native. The *Pioneer* may cavil at the statement because it very clearly shows the Government policy to be very different from what it would like it to be; but let it not forget that Sir Denzil Ibbetson is no chicken-hearted, lily-livered Civilian given to spooning with Natives. He is rather known to be an officer of the 'strong-minded' class who are not given to sentimentality of any kind."

Comments by the Native Press on cases *sub judice*.

15. The *Observer*, Lahore, of the 19th September 1903, writes as follows :—

" The Allahabad daily complains that many Indian journals ignore the law as to comment on matters which are subject of judicial proceedings, and we think the complaint is not without foundation. * * *

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(a)—Judicial—

Nil.

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Nil.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment affairs—

Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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SELECTIONS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

Unrest in the Balkans.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th September 1903, says that the *Times* as well as some of the Anglo-Indian papers are busy reviling the Sultan. A Madras newspaper has gone so far as to suggest that Muhammadans should not be employed in the army lest they should display a partiality for the Turks, their co-religionists. But if the suggestion were carried to its legitimate conclusion the British Government should also dismiss the Irish from its army, seeing that they are favourably disposed towards the French, who like them because they are Roman Catholics. It is undoubtedly true that the Muhammadans of India are anxious to see the Ottoman Empire prosper and are greatly pained at its discomfiture and embarrassment. This, however, does not mean that they are disloyal to their Government; on the contrary, the loyalty of Musalmans has been repeatedly put to a very severe test in fighting against their co-religionists. They are, however, not hypocrites, seeing that they openly disappove of the present foreign policy of England and would rather see her resume her former friendly policy towards Turkey.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	... 14,979	7	9
Small subscriptions ...	... 40	0	0
Total	... 15,019	7	9

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 11th September 1903		683	3	0
Small subscriptions	... ...	372	14	0
Total	...	1,056	1	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	12,053	15	7

4. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 12th September 1903		905	1	0
Small subscriptions	... ...	10	0	0
Total	...	915	1	0

(*b*)—*Home.*

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1903, says that Dr. Oldfield in an article on "A Russian invasion of India" (published in the *Indian Empire*) raises the two following questions :—(1) What will the British Army be able to do on such an occasion ? and (2) How will Native Indian subjects then behave ? As regards the first question the Doctor is of opinion that the warlike races of India are deteriorating. The Editor is unable to endorse this view in its entirety. There is no doubt that Native soldiers are not so high-spirited as their British comrades, but to brand the former with the stigma of cowardice is wrong. India, adds the Editor, has been conquered by Indians who have even recently displayed their valour in the Soudan, Egypt, and other places. It may, however, be remarked that nobody will contradict the Doctor's assertion that Indians are being made submissive beyond limit with a view to killing their sense of patriotism, a sentiment on which depends the life and vigour of a nation. *Apropos* of the second question, the Editor supports the Doctor's views regarding the causes of Indian restlessness, and remarks that in case of a Russian invasion of India the question of pay alone would decide whether the Natives would stand by England or Russia. It is, however, to be regretted that some Anglo-Indian officials follow the objectionable policy of disgracing and ill-treating the Indians, which is ill-calculated to produce friendly relations between them. The Editor concludes by remarking that English Statesmen are so engrossed with local affairs that they can spare no time to attend to Indian matters.

"A Russian invasion of India."

6. The *Edward Gazette* (Kasur), of the 16th September 1903, says that Lord Curzon's policy towards the Native States is certain to give rise to much apprehension amongst the Chiefs in view of the following events which took

Lord Curzon and Native States.

place after the Coronation Darbar :—(1) The abdication of Maharaja Holkar ; (2) the disgraceful treatment of the Raja of Bhilka, Kathiawar Agency, who, according to the *Rafi-ul-Akhbar* of the 27th July, was led in chains through the bazar to the Court of the Agency Magistrate ; (3) the rumour regarding the annexation of Kashmir ; (4) the cession of the Berars, and (5) the rumoured resignation of the Raja of Nabha. Commenting on the above the Editor observes that although the above-mentioned resignations, &c., may have been submitted to please the Government, the public do not view them in that light. It is therefore desirable that the authorities, with a view to avoid popular discontent, should be very considerate and careful in dealing with matters like those referred to.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Kabul affairs.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th September 1903, referring to the outbreak of cholera in Kabul, an account of which was recently published in the *Pioneer*, praises the Amir, who not only remained at Kabul, but helped the people by good advice and medical aid. The poor received pecuniary help and were allowed medicine and food free of cost. The Amir, moreover, issued a declaration, supported by quotations from the Quran, prohibiting the people from leaving Kabul, and thus prevented the infection being carried to neighbouring villages. Referring to an article in the *Bombay Gazette*, the Editor states that it seems altogether untrue that owing to illness the Amir does not attend to political matters and that he has entrusted these to Sardar Nasrulla Khan. The Sardar has already got enough to do and, like the Amir, performs his duties well. The Editor then goes on to say that perfect unity prevails amongst the Amir's brothers. The Amir follows the policy of his late father and has not allowed his prestige to suffer in any way. After remarking that the Yate affair has probably still further increased the Amir's prestige, the Editor observes that the story regarding the departure of certain Afghan soldiers to Russia and their return with a letter containing friendly messages from the Russian authorities is as unfounded as the one relating to the subsidy paid to the Afghan Government. It appears from a speech made by the Secretary of State for India that since his accession to the throne the Amir has not been paid any subsidy. The whole amount—at 18 lakhs per annum—is lying with Government, who have sanctioned the continuance of the same. It is said, the Editor observes, that the Amir wishes to know for what he is paid this money. In the Afghan State papers it is entered as "tribute from India." The Amir wishes to have the matter cleared up. The Editor remarks that the time is near at hand when the publication of such rumours will involve serious issues.

Some Baloch Khans in Russian territory.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1903, commenting on the complaint made to the Czar by the eight Khans of Baluchistan regarding the acquisition of their territory by the British Government, says that the time is approaching when the whole of Baluchistan will fall into the hands of the British Government. After remarking that the *Pioneer*, in defence of Government policy, says that Government pays annually for the occupation of

the Bolan Pass, the Seistan route, &c., the Editor alleges that nobody can gainsay that the compensation paid by Government is small as compared with the brilliant political results.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Some Hindu customs.

9. Bawa Narain Singh, Pleader, Amritsar, writing to the *Sanatan Dharam Gazette* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1903, says that the principle which forbids the Hindus to eat with non-Hindus also governs the question of *chhut* (contamination by touch). After enumerating some of the articles which are subject to *chhut* the writer goes on to say that the principle is based on social and sanitary considerations. In regard to the question as to why Hindus touch Musalmans and Christians, the writer says that they cannot help doing so at present, though they never touched non-Hindus during the early days of British rule. The writer then urges that a Hindu should be excommunicated if he eats food cooked by a non-Hindu. He then says that just as it is unsafe to mix with lepers and unclean persons, so it is sinful to touch persons who eat animal food.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets Bills.

10. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th September 1903, commenting on the Official Secrets Bill, expresses the hope that the Viceroy will consider the proposed amendment thoroughly before allowing it to be passed into law.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Quarantine camps for pilgrims to Mecca.

11. A correspondent of the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th September 1903, says that a rumour is current to the effect that the quarantine camps at Aligarh, Bandikui, &c., will be broken up this year and that pilgrims from Sind and the Punjab will be made to undergo quarantine at Bombay, and those from Bengal at Chittagong. The writer takes exception to this and advocates the retention of the old camps at Aligarh, Budhapur, &c., &c., on the following grounds :—

(1) That pilgrims in these places experience no inconvenience and can procure articles of food and drink at cheap rates ;

(2) That if the inhabitants of all parts of the county were made to undergo quarantine at Bombay the place would be overcrowded and many difficulties would have to be overcome.

(3) That experience has proved that plague rages with virulence during the winter. For the next few years the pilgrimage will take place during the winter and Bombay will be one of the most seriously infected places.

(4) That the establishment of separate provincial camps not far from each province facilitates the return of pilgrims to their homes without much expense.

The writer then goes on to say that Bandikui is situated in a remote corner of Rajputana and he suggests that the quarantine camp should be removed from that place to Ajmere, as more convenient for all the residents of Rajputana and Malwa.

The case of Private Casey.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th September 1903, commenting on the discharge of Private Casey of the Royal Munster Fusiliers, asks: "Could the murderer of a British Soldier found dead in a Native's house have escaped punishment even if he had concealed himself in the bowels of the earth? Although the higher authorities may not have the same regard for the life of a Native coolie as for that of a British Soldier, Casey and Jagu are nevertheless alike in the sight of God. The Natives are right in complaining that Government has so far failed to manage British Soldiers, seeing that the murder of a Native is considered no more reprehensible than the killing of a bird. It is quite natural on the part of the natives to feel strongly when they see that one of their countrymen has been killed and that no punishment has been inflicted on the offender.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—9-10-03—70.

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Nil.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land—

Nil.

(f)—Railways and Communications—

Nil.

(g)—Postal matters—

Nil.

(h)—Miscellaneous—

Nil.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 10th October 1903.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

England, Russia and Afghanistan.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1903, publishes a cartoon in which Russia is shown cogitating over the troubled state of Central Asia—

Russia.—"England's diplomacy is in the ascendant in Afghanistan, but neither she nor her rival (Russia) can rely upon the friendship of the Afghans."

Punch.—"There, you have hit the mark."

Conflict between the interests of England and Russia in the East.

2. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1903, publishes a cartoon in which the English Lion and the Russian Bear are seen extending their paws towards Kabul and Persia respectively. The letter-press runs as follows :—

"Although at present they (England and Russia) are amicably disposed towards each other, it will surprise no one if before long they come to blows. It may, however, he hoped that other friendly powers will intervene to prevent such a catastrophe.

The Hedjas Railway.

3. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1903, remarks that there is nothing meritorious in subscribing towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund, seeing that the scheme is almost entirely a commercial one. After remarking that the Muhammadans, who are so zealously engaged in collecting subscription for the said Railway, are actuated by a desire for notoriety, the Editor exhorts the *Watan* and the *Vakil* to bear in mind that charity should always begin at home.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 18th September 1903	1,056	1	0
Small subscriptions	35	0	0
Total ...	1,091	1	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	12,088	15	7

5. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 12th and the 26th September 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	888	1	0
Small subscriptions	29	0	0
Total ...	917	1	0

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th October 1903, writes as follows :—

Turkey and Macedonia.

"It is the *declared* object of the rebels to provoke the Turks into acts of brutality in order to hasten European intervention. The task of keeping an eye on the much-maligned Sultan has been assigned by the Powers to Russia and Austria. That they have not yet interfered effectively is not due to any consideration for the feelings of His Ottoman Majesty, but to the fact that, owing to the excesses of the Macedonians, they cannot find any excuse for coming between Turkey and her recalcitrant Christian subjects. It is significant that the Servians and Greeks, the nearest neighbours of the insurgents, cannot see their way to sympathise with them in their desperate struggles. The Archbishop of Canterbury represented popular sentiment in Christendom when he wrote to the Premier about the sufferings of the Macedonians. The Premier gave a statesmanlike reply. 'The Christian populations themselves,' Mr. Balfour observed, 'have lent their racial and religious differences to increase each other's ills. . . The revolutionists deliberately provoked violence by violence.' But prejudice is ever blind to fact, and we feel sure the Prime Minister's argument has proved totally unconvincing."

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1903, commenting on an article in the *Novoe Vremya* regarding the military strength of England, says that the remarks made by the Russian paper on the subject are puerile, seeing that when England could concentrate three hundred thousand men in the Transvaal without feeling the strain, it will not be difficult for her to muster a much larger force on the Indian Frontier. Moreover, the people of India appreciate the blessings which British rule has conferred on the country and are anxiously waiting for an opportunity to give a practical proof of their loyalty and devotion. In case of war they would come forward to a man to defend the Frontier ; and the Native States would spare no pains to show their loyalty. The Indians are desirous of giving additional proof of their

A Russian Invasion of India.

loyalty with a view to establish their claims to the concessions for which they have been clamouring for a long time past. They anxiously wait for such an opportunity, so that the distinction between European and Native subjects may be done away with. The Maharaja of Kashmir once remarked that a foreign invader could only cross the Frontier if there were not a single Rajput left to oppose him. Indeed, the Native Chiefs who did not falter in their loyalty during the Mutiny, are not likely to be behind hand in case Government is threatened with a foreign invasion. The resources of the British Government are not visible on the surface. But let the time come, and Russia will find that she has a difficult task to accomplish. After remarking that no Power can with impunity challenge the British Government, the Editor in conclusion states that the world has not yet forgotten who humbled the pride of Napolean.

Dr. Oldfield on "British rule and influence in the East."

8. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 25th September 1903, says that although the question of whose side the Indian people will take in case of a Russian invasion of India is interesting and important, the Indian public have never taken it into consideration. This is probably due either to their entertaining no apprehension of an invasion or being unswerving in their loyalty to Government. The Editor then publishes the substance of the remarks made by Dr. Oldfield in "*The Indian Empire*" on the subject, and observes that nobody will deny the blessings of British rule. He in conclusion suggests that the Anglo-Indian officials who have adopted the unreasoning policy of looking down upon the Natives should be exhorted to desist from it.

The same.

9. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1903, takes exception to Dr. Oldfield's remarks that the Natives of India will not offer any resistance to a Russian invasion. It is not likely that the people who long have enjoyed the blessings of British rule will readily exchange it for another. They are by no means sure of enjoying the present peace and tranquility under new masters. The Editor concludes by remarking that if Government were to permit Natives to carry arms it would soon be seen whether they would acquit themselves creditably in an emergency, or go on the sick-list like the Volunteers.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Kine-killing prohibited at Gondal.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1903, says that though the State of Gondal in Kathiawar has been under the Hindu rule of Thakurs, two-thirds of its population are Musalmans. Some time back the Bombay Government cancelled an order of the Thakur prohibiting the practice of kine-killing in the State. The present Thakur of Gondal, who is well educated and has recently been invested with full ruling powers, has again prohibited the killing of cows, and the Bombay Government has declined to interfere. This act of the Thakur, adds the Editor, is justifiable not only on religious but on agricultural grounds, seeing that cattle are very rare in Kathiawar and the occurrence of droughts in the past has almost brought about their extinction. The Muhammadans have now submitted a memorial to His Excellency for the cancellation of the above order and hope for the support of the State officials, who themselves eat beef.

11. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1903, commenting on the above, says that the action of the Hindu papers in opposing the memorial is prompted by a feeling of bigotry. After remarking that in British territory all classes are at liberty to act according to their religious beliefs, the Editor alleges that the Thakur's order affords a proof of his bigotry and that no ruler of a State having a sense of justice would like to pass such orders as are calculated to embitter the feelings of the bulk of the population.

The same.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 18th and 19th September 1903, writing on the same subject, says that in general the Muhammadans have nothing to say against the Thakur's orders, and exhorts the residents of the state, both Hindus and Musalmans, to maintain friendly relations with one another.

The same.

13. The *Hitkari* (Amritsar), of the 19th September 1903, says that kine-killing is one of the chief causes of Indian poverty, seeing that agriculturists suffer a great deal from the dearth of plough-cattle. The Editor in conclusion asks the followers of the Prophet whether the continuance of the practice of slaughtering cows is conducive to the prosperity of India.

The same.

VI.—Legislation.

14. The *Vakil-i-Hind* (Dehli), of the 27th September 1903, says that if the Bill introduced by Mr. Arundel were passed in its present form Lord Curzon would complete the work of destroying the liberty of the Press begun by his predecessors. Under the new law the onus of good faith will lie on the accused. The Editor fails to see why the provisions of the Bill should be extended to civil and administrative affairs. If the proposed amendment were carried into effect the newspapers would be effectually debarred from criticising public measures that are marked confidential, although the same may refer to public matters.

The Official Secrets Bill.

15. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th September 1903, says that the *Englishman*, a staunch advocate of the Official Secrets Bill, remarks that the Native Press, which does not attach much importance to the disclosure of civil secrets, should in future be on its guard. Some of the papers make a living by giving publicity to Government secrets, which is both illegal and immoral. It is the bounden duty of the Press not to improperly attack Government administration in view of the fact that the latter does not interfere in the lawful exercise of their rights by the people and shows a due regard for their liberty. The Editor suggests that on the occasion of the Bill being passed into law a provision should be made to the effect that in the first instance officials who allow a Government secret to leak out should be severely dealt with.

The same.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—19-10-03—70.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1903.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Alleged Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	400 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	500 copies.
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Amritsar ...	Sundar Singh, Akali ...	...
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
6	Akhbar-i-Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	3,200 copies.
7	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
8	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Laihna Singh ...	500 copies.
9	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 ,,
10	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	...
11	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	1,400 copies.
12	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Haji Ahmad ...	400 ,,
13	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,450 ,,
14	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,721 ,,
15	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	450 ,,
16	Edward Gazette ...	Kasur, District Lahore ...	Kartar Singh ...	...
17	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	500 copies.
18	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,570 ,,
19	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	...
20	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Hoosain ...	150 copies.
21	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 ,,
22	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	30 ,,
23	Khalsa Bahadur ...	Lahore ...	Rajindra Singh ...	500 ,,
24	Koh-i-Nur ...	Do. ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 ,,
25	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 ,,
26	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 ,,
27	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,000 ,,
28	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 ,,
29	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Sardar Bishan Singh ...	500 ,,

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Alleged Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
30	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal, Beri ...	...
31	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	600 copies.
32	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 ,,
33	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	3,200 ,,
34	Panja-i-Faulad ...	Do. ...	Muhammad Din ...	600 ,,
35	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	300 ,,
36	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ulla ...	360 ,,
37	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pt. Hari Kishen ...	600 ,,
38	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	600 ,,
39	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	150 ,,
40	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 ,,
41	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Wife of Mumtaz Ali ...	240 ,,
42	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	500 ,,
43	Urdu Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Munshi Ram ...	...
44	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Ahmad, Mukhtar	1,500 copies.
45	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,960 ,,
46	Wafadar Delhi Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 ,,
47	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,400 ,,
48	Zamindar ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	500 ,,
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
49	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Zia Ulla Beg ...	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
50	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 copies.
	MONTHLY.			
51	Bharat Partap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 copies.
52	Kakezai Social Reformer ..	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 ,,
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
53	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Indian Musalmans and the Sultan of Turkey.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th October 1903, reprints from the *Nayyar-i-Asfi* a suggestion to the effect that, following the example of the Turks and the Egyptians, the Musalmans of India should also set apart a day in the year to pray for the long life and prosperity of the Sultan. The Editor has no hesitation in recommending his co-religionists to pray for Sultan Abdul Hamid. He fails to see why they should set apart one day only for that purpose. It would not be amiss if they prayed to Government five times every day to help the custodian of the Holy Cities out of his present troubles.

The same.

2. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st October 1903, writing on the same subject, says that, not unlike the Pope of Rome, Sultan Abdul Hamid Khan is considered the Caliph of the Muhammadan world. His Majesty's spiritual headship does not, however, prejudice his rights as a temporal King over his subjects. It is natural for the Musalmans of India to feel for, and sympathise with, their brethren in Turkey in their present predicament. But this does not imply that the first named are not loyal and faithful to their own Government. Indeed, loyalty to the *de facto* ruler is strictly enjoined by Islam.

The same.

3. The same paper regrets that England also should have given credence to the unfounded rumours of Turkish atrocities circulated by the insurgents and sent a fleet to Turkish waters. After remarking that her present policy towards the Sultan is opposed to both equity and justice, the

Editor points out that England would be injuring the feelings of her Musalman subjects by taking up the cudgels on behalf of a mutinous people like the Macedonians.

England and Turkey.

4. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 24th September 1903, writing about the Sultan's troubles, says that while the Kischnieff massacres, Servian murders and the resolution of America to enslave or banish nine million Niggers have failed to elicit even a passing comment from the so-called civilised, humane, and philanthropic Christian Powers, in the case of Turkey an insignificant kingdom like Italy is also preparing to despatch war-ships to Turkish waters. Again, it is difficult to account for the unswerving loyalty of the Hebrew subjects of Sultan Abdul Hamid as opposed to the constant complaints of oppression and cruelty made by His Majesty's Christian people, except on the presumption that the latter have great faith in being supported by their co-religionists throughout Europe in case of a revolt. England is not unaware that the Musalmans of India look upon the Sultan as the "Commander of the Faithful," the "Vicegerent of the True Believers" and the "Custodian of the Holy Cities," and it would be an act of dishonesty to conceal the fact that the entire Muhammadan world regards the ruler of Turkey as its religious leader. In these circumstances, adds the Editor, Great Britain would be unnecessarily injuring the feelings of her six crores of Musalman subjects should she take up the cause of the Macedonian insurgents and their Bulgarian wire-pullers by bringing pressure to bear upon Turkey to concede their demands. If all other considerations fail, that of gratitude for past services alone should keep her (England) from ranging herself against the Sultan. It may not be commonly known, although it is a fact all the same, that Turkey stood by her during the Sepoy Mutiny of 1857. It was through the efforts of Sir Salar Jang I, who had obtained a *fatwa* from Constantinople exhorting the Muhammadans of India to stand by their English rulers, that Hyderabad was prevailed upon to throw in her lot with the British Government. No less a personage than Sir John Lawrence was of opinion that India would have been lost to a certainty had the Nizam deserted the English at that crisis. It is to be regretted that England, instead of repaying the debt by befriending Turkey in her time of need, has more than once been not only an indifferent spectator of the troubles of that country, but has profited by her losses. During the last Turko-Russian War she possessed herself of Cyprus. As if not satisfied with this injury, she is preparing herself a second time to meddle in Macedonian affairs, as is borne out by the fact of her despatching a man-of-war to Turkish waters. The Editor concludes by remarking that the last Greeko-Turkish War having incontrovertably established the fact that the Turks possess the most civilised and well-behaved soldiery, the charges of cruelty and barbarity imputed to them by the Macedonian and Bulgarian insurgents must be considered as utterly false and fictitious.

Turkey and the Powers.

5. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st October 1903, says that the Macedonian insurrection is the result of a deep-laid plot instigated by European Powers. In fact a systematic agitation has been going on against

Turkey ever since 1877, when a Political Association was founded at St. Petersberg. The Association numbers among its members several Russian officials, the Foreign Minister of the Czar being one of them. Its secret agents travel in disguise in Turkey, creating disaffection among her Christian subjects by their insidious preachings, which are generally followed by a judicious present of hard cash to the indigent peasantry of the Ottoman Empire. The Association is liberally supported and can well afford to lavish money on the fulfilment of its nefarious objects. The Turkish "Young Party" and some Government officials have also been inveigled into joining the Association. The Paris branch of the Association was at the bottom of the recent postal complications in Turkey. The branch at Sofia has King Ferdinand for its President. In short, but for a very strong secret service of spies, the Sultan would have been unable to cope with so many open and covert enemies. The imaginary grievances published in European newspapers against the Turkish Government are a mere pretext, the real object being the expulsion of the Turks from Europe. The insurrections occasionally reported from Turkey are due more to foreign machinations than to the so-called weakness or mismanagement of the Turkish Government. In fact, Christian Europe considers it a mortal sin to suffer the Prophet's followers to own any territory in Christendom. More than once proposals were made for a European concert to wrest Constantinople from the Sultan, but fortunately for the latter they could not be carried through owing to mutual jealousies. The overthrow of the Turkish Empire is calculated to disturb the balance of power in Europe, a state of things which cannot be regarded with indifference even by those who are opposed to the Sultan's Government. The trend of affairs in the Near East clearly shows that Russia and Austria hesitate to possess themselves of Macedonia simply for fear of causing a Continental War. In any case, the Sultan has a very hard time of it. If he treats the insurgents with leniency he is accused of weakness. If vigorous measures are adopted to quell the insurrection, Europe charges His Majesty with cruelty and severity. One thing, however, is certain, and that is that Abdul Hamid is not prepared to part with Macedonia without fighting for it, seeing that the Turkish press is strongly censuring the attitude of the insurgents and the Maulvies are openly preaching a *jehad* against Bulgaria.

The Hedjaz Railway.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 2nd October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 25th September 1903	1,091	1	0
Small subscriptions	190	13	0
Total ...	1,281	14	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	10,997	14	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	12,279	12	7

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	15,019	7	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	100	0	0
Total	...	15,134	15	9

8. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 3rd October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 26th September 1903		917	1	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	8	0
Total	...	922	9	0

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	556	15	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	1,008	15	6
Total	...	1,565	14	9

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

10. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 4th October 1903, takes *East and West* to task for publishing remarks to the effect that the poverty of India is on the increase. The people of India are, on the contrary, getting richer every day, seeing that many factories and workshops now exist, the proprietors whereof earn lacs of rupees a year. Again, the Government is busily devising schemes to improve the resources of India, as is evidenced by the appointment of the Irrigation Commission, &c. The interest taken by the Viceroy in improving indigenous arts and industries is also calculated to better the condition of the country. After remarking that the poverty of this country is to a great extent due to the lazy habits of the people, the Editor goes on to suggest that political organisations like the National Congress should urge the people to shake off their lethargy and devise means for giving an impetus to technical education by starting factories, etc.

The causes of the poverty of India.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—22-10-03—70.

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Nil.

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Nil.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Nil.

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VI.—Legislation.

Nil.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

Nil.

(b)—Police.

Nil.

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Nil.

(d)—Education.

Nil.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Nil.

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

England and Turkey.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1903, remarks that the energies of the English nation are not affected by the difficulties at home caused by Mr. Chamberlain's preferential tariff scheme and the split in the Ministry. The keen-witted and alert Englishman is never at a loss for a pretext to meddle in foreign politics. On the 20th September last a large meeting was convened at St. James's Hall, in which resolutions were passed condemning Turkish rule. A subscription list was opened to collect money for the Macedonian insurgents. The meeting has served to expose not only the English clergy in their true colours, but also the real feeling of the British Government towards Turkey. The revelation is calculated to greatly hurt the feelings of Indian Musalmans. As to the attitude of the Sultan towards his Christian subjects, it is beyond all doubt a conciliatory one, seeing that out of the five members working on the Committee of Reform for Macedonia, only one is a Muhammadan.

The Sultan and the Indian Musalmans.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th October 1903, remarks that the action of the Indian Musalmans in sympathising with the Sultan is not incompatible with their loyalty to the British Government. Indeed, the common bond of religion would have held them excusable had they shown more than passive sympathy for their brethren-in-faith in Turkey. As it is, the Sultan is in no way responsible for the unrest in the Balkans. The insurgents must thank themselves or their so-called friends for the present state of affairs. In this connection, Mr. Balfour in his reply to a letter addressed to him by the Archbishop of Canterbury, blames the Macedonians for their revolutionary action. Some of the Anglo-Indian newspapers, which accuse the Musalmans of India of blindly supporting the Turkish cause, must take a leaf out of the book of the English premier. It would be interesting to note what a Hindu paper, which can neither be biased nor prejudiced in writing about Turkish affairs, has to say on the subject in question. The Editor then reprints the *Tribune's* remarks on the Macedonian troubles.

3. The *Vahil* (Amritsar), of the 13th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	...	15,134	15	9
Small subscriptions	...	...	10	0	0
Total		...	*15,144	15	9

* Of this sum Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 9th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 2nd October 1903			1,281	14	0
Small subscriptions	...	...	2	8	0
Total		...	1,284	6	0
Deduct amount remitted to Turkey on the 2nd October	...	...	1,200	0	0
Balance in hand	...	...	84	6	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey up to date			12,197	14	7
GRAND TOTAL		...	12,282	4	7

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	...	...	556	15	3
Small subscriptions	...	...	45	2	0
Total		...	602	1	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey		...	2,007	7	9
GRAND TOTAL		...	2,609	9	0

6. The *Tehsib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 3rd October 1503		...	922	9	0
Small subscriptions	...	...	43	0	0
Total		...	965	9	0

"Future Asia."

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1903, publishes an article on "Future Asia" which winds up as follows :—

"Let Asia first become so powerful physically as to be placed beyond the remotest possibility of outward interference, and then open, by self-example, the eyes of the world—with all its armed hordes and innumerable armaments ready, at a moment's notice, to hurl the dial of Time, with all its dazzling progress of centuries, several hundred years backwards—to the true ideals of civilisation, to the real state of enlightenment, and to the Grand road—the God-directed road—to human progress and human happiness. Thanks to constant knocks from without, Asia is waking from its deep and sonorous slumber of centuries. Future Asia is opening her eyes to the terrible alternative :—*Victory from within or a mighty death without*! This returning consciousness has found its most faithful mirror in Japan. It is evidently reserved for the little Jap—not very seriously thought of thirty years ago—the undying honour of remaking Asia out of the shattered materials of ages and leading her on to righteous victory and everlasting glory. Japan, to put it as it is, is a very reliable measuring rod for accurately ascretaining the extent of the possibilities of a future and united Asia."

(b)—Home.

The National Congress.

8. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 6th October 1903, after remarking that Mr. Lal Mohun Ghose has been selected to be President of the coming National Congress, enquires what practical benefit the country has derived from the eloquent speeches delivered at various political gatherings. The Editor then goes on to say that the country would be in a much better condition if the amount spent each year by the Congress were devoted to some joint commercial or industrial undertaking.

The same.

9. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th October 1903, says that the country has derived much practical benefit from the National Congress. Is it not through the efforts of this political body that one sees Legislative Councils in every Province? The question of the separation of executive and judicial functions now under the consideration of the Government of India, the remission of the income tax, the reduction in the salt duty and the scheme for conferring high appointments on Natives, are all due to the exertions of the Congress. Again, the Congress is the cause of the appointment of the Police and the Irrigation Commissions. The bill which it is now proposed to lay before the Legislative Council regarding the establishment of agricultural banks is a measure on the importance of which the Congress has laid much stress for some time past. The Editor then goes on to say that had there been no such organisation in India, the blessings enumerated above would perhaps have been denied to the people.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th October 1903, publishes an extract from the New York *Sun* on the relations between the British Government and the "Hindus" and writes as follows:—

Relations between the British Government and the Natives of India.

"To the great humiliation of British history and the British constitution, the place of the British Indian subject in the British Empire, as revealed by facts of unmistakable significance, is a topic of growing interest all over the world. In America they are wondering how it is that men who can convert lots of enlightened American Christians to their own faith by their wonderful genius and eloquence and personal magnetism can be treated in the British Colonies as if they were Hottentots or Congo cannibals.

"Every one with eyes to see and reason to understand will consider our American contemporary quite as sober as he is accurate in his conclusion that there will be some day 'a race question of surpassing magnitude in India between three hundred millions of natives on one side and a handful of whites on the other.'"

VII.—General Administration.

(h) Miscellaneous.

11. The *Tahzib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1903, publishes a communication from one *Tarqiat-ara Begam* of Bombay, who says that good and bad women are to be met with in all nations. The wives of European Officers, however, who come to India are generally very courteous and well-behaved. As regards Native Christian women, they are, with a few exceptions, drawn from the lowest classes, and should not, therefore, be included in the category of European ladies. But with a view to establish freer intercourse between European and Native ladies it is desirable that the latter should make some changes in their habits and ways of living. At present their customs, their *parda* system, and the situation of their houses, &c., are a stumbling block in the way of a better understanding and familiar intercourse between the two.

Social intercourse between Native and European ladies.

Commenting on the above, the Editor fails to see why Native customs, &c., should stand in the way of social intercourse. Is it not possible for Native women to make friends with their European sisters without changing their customs. The change of one's national dress for the sake of merely finding admittance into European society would be a very stupid action. What is there to prevent English ladies visiting the Zenana and Native ladies returning those visits? Customs, etc, have nothing to do with social intercourse.

12. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 7th October 1903, takes *East and West* to task for publishing certain remarks regarding the poverty of India. Under British rule poverty has become a thing of the past, and a great impetus has been given to trade, commerce and agriculture. In past times only two or three millionaires could be met with throughout the whole country, whereas now many are seen even in small villages. After remarking that the *Punjab Organ* has already endorsed his views, the Editor expresses a wish that other newspapers should also controvert the unfounded remarks made in *East and West* on the subject.

The so-called poverty of India.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—4-11-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 31st October 1903.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

England and Turkey.

1. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 16th October 1903, says that foreign telegrams for the last week show that not only Russia and Austria, but also France and Greece practically endorse Mr. Balfour's view in laying the "burden of criminality" at the door of the insurgents. But despite these trustworthy evidences, the English Bishops and their fellow-thinkers are insisting upon holding Turkey responsible for the present state of affairs in Macedonia and the Balkans. In fact, not a few of the clergy are the ring-leaders of the insurgents. It may be asked whether the conduct of these religious leaders is in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ. It is an open secret that the insurgents, disguising themselves as Turks, commit all sorts of cruel deeds, with a view to bring discredit upon the Musalmans, while their Chrisrian pastors help them in these nefarious acts. Instead of giving unto Cæsar what is Cæsar's these vicegerents of Christ are for turning Cæsar out of his house and home. They should, however, bear in mind that the fall of Turkey will encompass the ruin of the whole of Christian Europe. In their misguided zeal for their co-religionists, these so-called philanthropists are teaching other races to throw off the yoke of foreign rulers. It is to be hoped that His Imperial Majesty King Edward VII, who is the greatest King of the Muhammadans, will do nothing that may be calculated to injure the feelings of his millions of Muhammadan subjects. The Editor then goes on to say that the charge of religious bigotry hurled at Islam is utterly devoid of truth. Indeed, it the Turks were as fanatical as they are represented to be, Roumania, Bulgaria and Macedonia would long since have been depleted of their Christian population. As a matter of fact, it is their toleration that has brought about these troubles. These complications would have been avoided had the Turks expelled all Christians from their kingdom just as the Spaniards did in the case of the Moors.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th October 1903, says that a rumour has obtained currency in Europe to the effect that Lord Landsdowne, as Foreign Minister, has submitted to the Powers a proposal to place Macedonia under a Christian Governor who should be independent of the control of the Sultan. He has also proposed the appointment of European officers to the Turkish armies stationed in the above Province. The Editor hesitates to believe that such a suggestion could have emanated from a man of Lord Landsdowne's experience, who, as a former Viceroy of India, must be fully cognisant of the views of the Musalmans on this subject. Indeed, the followers of Islam throughout the world, will with one voice disapprove of Turkey being despoiled of her possessions. The above proposal, if true, evidently aims at the independence of Macedonia, which the Sultan would be loth to submit to without fighting. The Editor concludes by remarking that if the said rumour is well founded, Lord Landsdowne should lose no time in correcting his mistake. If he fails to do so the people will be justified in wishing that he too along with some other ministers had resigned his portfolio into worthier hands.

The same.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,144	15	9
Small subscriptions		5	0	0
Total	...	15,149	15	9

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 9th October 1903		84	6	0
Small subscriptions		76	4	0
Total	...	160	10	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,197	14	7
GRAND TOTAL	...	12,358	8	7

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	2,609	0	9
Small subscriptions	...	10	0	0
Total	...	2,619	0	9

6. The *Tahsib-i Niswan* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 10th October 1503 ...	965	9	0
Small subscriptions	23	1	0
Total ...	988	10	0

(b)—Home.

7. The following editorial paragraph appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th October 1903 : —

Government, Native States and the Delhi Darbar.

"The following from Sir George Scott's last Administration Report of the Shan States equally applies to all the Native States of India, irrespective of the admission or non-admission of the fact by those concerned :—'They (the Chiefs of the Shan States) were very eager to go (to the Delhi Darbar), and are rather rueful now they have come back, and are more convinced of the fact that the journey cost them a very great deal more than anything else, and at least in one State the cultivators are complaining of the benevolences levied from them. . . .' In the the official review of the decennial statement regarding the Moral and Material Progress of India we are told that the 'traditional extravagence of Native rulers' has been 'discouraged' and the conditions of their subjects 'improved' Who can have the hardihood of saying after this that the Anglo-Indian officialdom is devoid of humour, light or grim?"

8. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th October 1903, says that amongst the blessings conferred by the British *ráj*, great stress is laid on that of religious neutrality. Everybody of whatsoever religious denomination is free to act in accordance with his own religious beliefs. After remarking that Rs. 45,00,000 are annually given by Government to the Christian Bishops to propagate Christianity amongst the Indian people, the Editor observes that it is very unjust that other religious bodies should be denied similar concessions.

Government and religious neutrality.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st October 1903, writes as follows :—

The Agricultural Banks Bill.

"The tenor and tone of Sir Denzil Ibbetson's speech introducing the Agricultural Banks Bill have received universal commendation. There is no air of almightiness in the speech so common in official compositions of the class, and every word of it is instinct with a sincere desire on the part of the Government to help the Indian agriculturist in the matter of his indebtedness, side by side with a consciousness of the inadequacy of the measure proposed for the object in view. The proposed Village Bank is an institution of European origin, and Sir Denzil Ibbetson is diffident whether it will take root in Indian soil—at any rate without active and sympathetic Government help. The Hon'bly Home Member frankly admits that it is only an experiment that the Government is going to try, about whose success he is by no means confident. 'I feel by no means certain of success, I do not expect to find in it a panacea for all the difficulties of the Indian cultivator,' observed Sir Denzil Ibbetson. At the same time Gov-

ernment is by no means half-hearted in the matter but is prepared to see the matter to the end, being fully alive to the importance of the object in view. Only it will proceed cautiously * * * * "

The Ancient Monuments Bill.

10. The same paper publishes the following :—

"The Bill to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments was another important measure introduced at the last meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council, and upon which also Sir Denzil Ibbetson made an interesting speech. * * *

The measure is one for which every lover of India's past ought to be grateful to Lord Curzon's Government."

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Report of the Police Commission.

11. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th October 1903, writes as follows :—

"To get out of a rather awkward and inexplicable position with regard to the Report of the Police Commission, the Government of India has been obliged to issue a Press *communiqué* explaining the delay in publishing the Report. The explanation, however, does not explain anything, and serves to make the mystery more mysterious still. The *communiqué* (dated from the Home Department) runs as follows: 'It is understood that the opinions and recommendations of the Government of India upon the Report of the Police Commission will be forwarded to the Secretary of State before the Government leaves Simla. By order of the Secretary of State the publication of the Report is only withheld until the Report and the proposals of the Government of India have been received and considered by him.' The question naturally arises, what led the Secretary of State at such a distance to think that the withholding of the publication of the Report, until the Government of India's proposals thereon had been seen by him, would be 'in the public interest.' What guarantee is there that, after seeing the Government of India's proposals, he will not be impressed with the idea that both the Report and the proposals had better not see the light of day at all? The *communiqué* does not give any other reason beyond the arbitrary wish of the Secretary of State for departing from the rule followed in respect of the Reports of the Universities, the Railway and the Irrigation Commissions, namely, that of first publishing the Report for public discussion and then formulating proposals upon it. This deviation from the ordinary course seems to confirm the suspicion entertained in certain quarters that Sir Andrew Fraser's Report has got some rather bitter pills for the official gods to swallow, and that the meaning of the delay is to give the pills a chance to dissolve in the milk-and-water of an indulgent Government Resolution. In other words, that without the whitewash of a Government Resolution the Report is likely to show in too prominent a manner certain ugly spots in the present system of Indian Police Administration."

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.

12. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 9th October 1903, publishes a communication from a pilgrim to the Hedjaz who observes that the Government instead of advising its Muhammadan subjects to postpone their visit to the Holy cities in view of the strict quarantine rules imposed by Turkey, should endeavour to get those rules relaxed. As a matter of fact, he adds, the Indian pilgrims nowhere in the course of their journey are subjected to the inconvenience which they experience at Bombay. If they suffer any hardships in Turkish territory it is mainly owing to the indifference of the British Consul to their interests. A little effort on that officer's part would put matters right. The writer then

gives a detailed account of his experience in the quarantine camp at Bombay, adding that Police officials and others on duty there are mostly to blame for the hardships to which the pilgrims are subjected.

Comments by the Native Press on cases *sub judice*.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 16th October 1903, deprecates comment in the newspapers on cases that are *sub judice* and says that while cases are pending newspaper comments thereon are sometimes apt to prejudice the mind of the Magistrate.

The plague.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 17th October 1903, says that the plague has broken out afresh in different parts of India with the advent of the cold weather. It is to be regretted that both the Government and the eminent Medical men, who have made the subject their special study have, so far, failed to discover a specific for the fell disease. As to measures of sanitation and cleanliness, they are not freely resorted to by Local Governments for want of funds. The Imperial Government though lavishing money like water on unimportant experiments like the Tibet Mission, the raising of the pay of the English Army, and the Viceroy's projected tour to the Persian Gulf, are chary of finding the wherewithal to keep the plague out of the country. Indeed, their present policy of indifference is as bad as the former one of compulsion. The Editor then goes on to say that although the Malkowál mishap has greatly prejudiced the inoculation scheme of the Punjab Government, yet there are many who still believe in its efficacy as a prophylactic. The Government of India is, therefore, ill-advised in not publishing the report submitted to it relating to the Malkowál accident. If inoculation prevents the disease the sooner the public are reassured the better. If not, the authorities will be committing a moral as well as a political sin in keeping them in the dark as to the baneful effects of the operation. The Editor in conclusion urges upon the Government the desirability of helping the people in getting their houses, &c., disinfected.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—7-11-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 7th November 1903.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Lord Curzon's forthcoming visit to the Persian Gulf.

1. A correspondent, writing to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 23rd October 1903, says that Lord Curzon's forthcoming visit to the Persian Gulf is attracting considerable attention in the English and Anglo-Indian Press. After giving the substance of the remarks made in some of the papers the writer goes on to say that it is not likely that any advantage of a permanent nature will result from the proposed tour. The sight of the English men-of-war with the Viceroy will not be a novelty to the people living near the coast, nor are the Persians so foolish as to be impressed by the news of the British Ambassador at Teheran setting out on a long journey to attend upon Lord Curzon. As it is, the visit instead of proving useful, is calculated to rouse the suspicion of both Russia and Turkey. The *Novoe Vremya* has already warned the Russian Government to prepare for a counter-move. In the circumstances it would not be surprising if Lord Lansdowne's pronouncement on the subject of the Persian Gulf led to a sanguinary war between Great Britain and some European Power.

The Sultan and Muhammadans.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th October 1903, reports that on the preceding Friday prayers for victory to the Sultan's arms were offered in four local mosques, and expresses the hope that the example will be followed everywhere, such supplications to the Almighty being continued to be made till Abdul Hamid's difficulties are over. It is the duty of Muhammadans all the world over to be true to their faith, as also to him who recks not of life in his efforts to preserve that faith. The Editor deprecates Lord Lansdowne's proposal urging the British Government to array itself against Turkey, and expresses surprise that His Lordship should have lost sight of the fact that the step was calculated to offend the feelings of His Majesty's "ten crores of Musalman subjects in India." It is to be wished that the said Government would continue to display the wisdom and foresight the world has come to associate with his name.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,149	15	9
Small subscriptions		10	4	0
Total	...	15,160	3	9

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 23rd and 27th October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions;—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 16th October 1903		160	10	0
Small subscriptions		227	4	11
Total	...	387	14	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL	...	12,586	8	7

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 31st October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	2,619	0	9
Small subscriptions	...	4	0	0
Total	...	2,623	0	9

6. The *Tahsib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 24th and 31st October 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions;—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	988	10	0
1. Mrs. Umar Hayat ...	...	100	0	0
2. Small subscriptions ...	...	52	9	0
Total	...	1,141	3	0

III.—Native States.

Government and Native States.

7. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th October 1903, publishes a communication the writer of which observes that some "politicians" are of opinion that Government's intentions towards Native Chiefs are wholly bad, and that it does not like Indian Princes to have things their own way. The correspondent's own view is that Government is averse to annexing any State by force, although it would now keep all States under its influence (*asar*). When, therefore, a Native Chief follows a policy opposed to that of the Political Officers accredited to his Darbar, Government is forced to interfere in the affairs of his State. In such a case it selects a man who is fully acquainted with the internal condition of the State to carry out its wishes and keep it informed of every thing, great and small, going on in that part of the country. It cannot be denied that Government has been treating as so much waste paper the treaties entered into between it and the feudatory States after the Sepoy Mutiny, that it would like Indian Princes to exercise only limited powers and that it is its earnest desire that the said princes should be wholly under its influence. The doings of Lord Curzon in particular would show that his policy towards Native States is different from that of his predecessors, which should prove that just as time undergoes changes Government's policy in regard to the said States is also changing. But the present Viceroy alone is not to blame for this: the new policy would seem to have been initiated by the Secretary of State for India. And if Government continues to move along the new lines for some time longer, the day will come when Indian Princes will have become mere figure-heads. Government anxiously waits for a Native Chief to develop some defect and enable it to get the administration into its own hands. It is, however, far from its policy to annex a State without some special reason. The writer then goes on to say that although the times and Government's policy have changed, the said chiefs and their foolish advisers continue to live in a dead post. They should move with the times, take notice of the above policy and shake off their slothful and luxurious habits. There is no necessity for Government to bear in mind the treaties concluded in 1857. When the whole country is completely in its hands why should it allow any part of it to remain independent and permit Indian Princes to exercise unlimited powers? The latter desire to have everything their own way and to enjoy life, indifferent to the welfare of their subjects; but Government cannot tolerate this. The Princes should, therefore, always keep in mind the policy of Government and avoid advisers who would teach them to be independent. Again, they should be on friendly terms with the Political Officers accredited to their States and should on no account oppose them. Were they to take this advice all their desires would be fulfilled. They should bear in mind that those of them who were inimical to their Political Officers have been deprived of ruling powers for ever. The correspondent adds that it is to be desired that some real well-wisher of the Maharaja of Jodhpur would advise His Highness to cultivate the friendship of Political Officers, follow the policy of Government and refuse to listen to mischief-makers.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

8. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd October 1903, remarks that the relations between Hindus and Muhammadans are becoming more strained every day, with the result that these communities have been losing their strength. The followers both of Islam and Hinduism are employed in every deparment of the public service, but, as a general rule, they are at enmity with each other. Various causes are assigned to account for the state of affairs complained of, but none of them are worthy of consideration. But there can be no denying the fact that the friendship between the Hindus and Muhammadans has been on the decrease ever since Pandit Dayanand began to attack the Prophet's faith and a certain Maulvi commenced refuting those attacks. And the gulf is being widened with the spread of education and the Arya religion; and God alone knows what the future is to be! Religious controversies were first introduced during the time of the Pandit named, and the evil has assumed such dimensions that both sides have issued dozens of books against each other, and the cry is "still they come." It is difficult to say for certain which party threw the first stone, but it cannot be gainsaid that both have been indulging in exaggeration and using grossly obscene language towards their opponents. After advising the Aryas and Musalmans to confine their efforts to the amelioration of the religious condition of the Hindus and the Prophet's superstitious followers, respectively, the Editor observes that no one among Dayanand's disciples knows Arabic, while the same remark applies to the Muhammadans as regards a knowledge of Sanskrit. Both, therefore, rely on translations; but as these are not always accurate, it is a mistake to base criticism on them. This being so the writings of neither side are free from prejudice and they give mortal offence to the believers in the religion against which they are levelled. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that were the various *Sabhas*, *Samajes* and *Anjumans* in the country to address themselves to the task, the enmity between the two great communities inhabiting India could be easily removed.

VI.—Legislation.

The Agricultural Banks Bill and the Bill to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th October 1903, writing about the Agricultural Banks Bill and the Bill to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments, remarks that the propos ed laws are certain to be welcomed by all sections of the population. Some may not approve of certain details in the Bills, but no one can take exception to the principles underlying both, or abstain from applauding the motives of Government. After publishing the substance of the Agricultural Banks Bill, the Editor remarks that it is clear that Government's object in proposing this law is to unite the *Zamindars* and enable them to practise economy and escape from the clutches of usurers. All sensible persons should, therefore, appreciate the Authorities' efforts for the good of the agriculturists and do their utmost to make the working of the projected law a success. The article winds up with a summary of the Bill for the preservation of Ancient Monuments and the remark that it was natural that some such measure should be taken in hand during the time of an antiquarian like Lord Curzon.

VII.—General Administration.

(d)—Education.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 24th October 1903, reports that the members of the deputation sent to Persia some time back on behalf of the Aligarh College returned to Aligarh on the 17th October and were accorded a splendid reception. It has not transpired yet whether the tour was a success financially, but it is satisfactory to learn that the deputation met with an enthusiastic reception at Shiraz, and that educated Persians have expressed their thorough agreement with the aims and objects of the Aligarh College. A dozen gentlemen agreed to send their boys to the College and nine of the latter have already reached India. There are strong hopes of a large number of Persian youths following this example, seeing that one of the members of the deputation is still in Persia with the sole object of securing pupils for the College. The deputation may rightly be said to have gained the object with which they left this country, inasmuch as they have succeeded in interesting the Persians in the Aligarh College and establishing a sort of intellectual relation between educated Indian Muhammadans and their Persian confreres.

The Aligarh College

(h)—Miscellaneous.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th October 1903, says that instead of hankering after Government employment, educated Natives should attend to more profitable pursuits, *viz.*, trade, agriculture, &c. India being an agricultural country, efforts should be made to increase the produce of land by means of improved and up-to-date implements. Steps should also be taken to revive its indigenous arts and industries. The indifference of educated Natives in this direction demands that Government,—but more particularly *raises* and Native Chiefs,—should devote themselves to improving the resourses of the country. After remarking that Native industries,—for instance the manufacture of sugar, are dying out owing to foreign enterprise, the Editor calls upon his fellow-countrymen to save their country by holding exhibitions to give an impetus to Native arts and industries.

A suggestion to revive Indian Arts and Industries.

12. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd November 1903, writes as follows :—

Disproportionateness of sentences passed on Europeans.

"A case recently decided by the Lahore Chief Court against a European soldier charged with stealing a service revolver has evidently aroused a great deal of interest in the European community, and the severity of the sentence passed upon the accused, as compared with the leniency of treatment accorded to European soldiers charged with killing natives, must strike the Indian reader as amazing. Alfred Ashfield, Private in the Wiltshire Regiment, was charged with the theft, and his servant. Mehr Din with abetment of the same. * * * *

"Ashfield was convicted and sentenced to *three years' rigorous imprisonment*, and Mehr Din, having been recommended to mercy by the jury, was let go with twenty stripes. The severity of the sentence passed upon Ashfield must, as we have said, strike the average Indian reader as amazing. It shows the serious light in which offences against service, specially military discipline, is viewed by English Courts. But what is one to think of a system of legal administration in which such strange disproportionateness of punishment is frequently visible—namely, three years' hard labour for stealing a revolver and rupees fifty fine for a brutal assault upon a fellow-man that results in the latter's death!"

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—14-11-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

Russia and Japan and the fate of Asia.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th November 1903, writes as follows :—

"God helps those who help themselves. The little Jap has girded up his loins to fight the giant. God will help him. On the result of this struggle depends the fate of Asia. God will help him. If he loses, with him Asia is lost, and all the golden dreams of the modern Asiatic—dreams that are flushed with new-born hopes—will have vanished in the thin air. If he succeeds, Asia is saved, her future ensured, her prestige enhanced, and even European politics will not remain uninfluenced by the event. Little Japan! she is the pride and hope of modern Asia. God will help her. Little Japan! she shines in the Far East in all the virgin grandeur of the morning star, heralding the dawn of Asiatic consciousness. God will help her in the fateful task she has taken upon her solitary shoulders (it is so pathetic and so ennobling) without asking any one to help her, and she is preparing herself for it in all the deadly earnestness of deep silence. She has the sympathy and the moral support of the world in general and the Asiatics in particular. A European cannot realise the keen anxiety with which an Asiatic scans the Reuter's telegrams concerning the threatened conflict. * * * * * * "

The Thibet Mission.

2. The same Paper publishes the following :—

"No less an English worthy than the late Lord Salisbury said, with reference to the Chinese attitude towards Missionaries, that the Orientals hated the Missionary because they had seen the Missionary to be by and by followed by the General. In a similar manner, it may be said to be a general rule that with Europeans movements which begin as 'Missions'—commercial, scientific, or philanthropic—get by and by converted into 'Expeditions.' The Somali Expedition was in the beginning only an exploring mission, and the Thibetan Mission is now taking the sure proportions of an Expedition. Failing to get a conference with the Thibetan and Chinese representatives at Khamba Jong, Colonel Younghusband's 'Mission' has been ordered to move on into Thibet, 'with an escort,' we are told by the *Pioneer*, '*sufficiently strong to protect it against any attack.*' To be more explicit, the Mission will be accompanied by a Sikh and Gurkha force something like four thousand strong. It is a general rule that defiance leads to reprisal, and if the Thibetans should interpret the pushing on into their country of an armed force as a defiance of their authority, and

should try to retaliate, the blame could hardly be laid at their door by any fair-minded person. Such a contingency is anticipated by those concerned, and the *Pioneer* serenely observes that 'if the Thibetans adopt a hostile attitude, it may be found advisable to occupy the Chumbi Valley beyond Gnatong, as this diversion would probably have a demoralising effect upon them.' Pursuing this line of thought further, one may say that if the Thibetans persist in their perversity, and refuse to receive the Mission with open arms, why, it may be 'desirable' to occupy their entire country. There is no doubt, at any rate, that in a very short time British troops will have crossed the Thibetan frontier, and that the prospect is one full of uncertainty, if not of anxiety. Lord Curzon has for the last five years followed a policy opposed to Frontier wars, and it is to be hoped that he will not now allow that wise policy to be departed from to satisfy the European trader's money greed."

England and Turkey.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), dated the 6th November 1903, says that no person of any consequence, of whatever creed or nationality, will deny that the agitation carried on against the Turks in Europe during the last thirty or forty years is wholly uncalled for. Indeed, instead of being the oppressors their enemies represent them to be, the Turks are the aggrieved party. Several meetings have been held in England in support of the agitators, although it is to the credit of the English that a large number of them regarded the movement as opposed to justice and equity. In 1876-77, when the late Mr. Gladstone and his disciples were preaching a crusade against Turkey, many right-minded and just Englishmen entered the lists to defend the much-maligned Turk. Again, while the late Lord Salisbury's doings as Foreign Minister were poisoning the hearts of Christian Europe against the Turks, Lord Beaconsfield's policy operated as an antidote. During the Russo-Turkish War, moreover, a large number of Englishmen not only gave money in aid of the wounded soldiers of Turkey, but also induced Indian Musalmans to follow their example. Nor is this all. During the Crimean War Lord Palmerston went the length of despatching hundreds of thousands of British soldiers to fight for the Mulsalmans. This friendly attitude of the British Government towards Turkey has, however, undergone a change of late. In connection with the so-called Armenian atrocities, England abandoned the cause of truth and arrayed herself against the Sultan; but as a punishment, got herself involved in troubles in Venezuela and the Transvaal. Her attitude during the recent Turco-Greek War and in connection with the granting of autonomy to Crete was also objectionable, and the result was that the Almighty taught her a lesson on the north-western Frontier of her Indian dependency. The Editor then calls upon the British Government to abandon its new policy towards Turkey and re-establish friendly relations with the Sultan.

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,160	3	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	26	0	0
Total	...	*15,186	3	9

*Of this sum Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 30th October 1903		387	14	11
Small subscriptions	...	8	11	0
Total	...	396	9	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL	...	12,595	3	7

6. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Small subscriptions ...	...	36	0	0
Total	...	36	0	0

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th November 1903, writing about the political association recently started by the Muhammadans in the United Provinces, says that the movement is premature. Natives in general and Mussalmans in particular are sadly lacking in executive capibilities. Government cannot be blamed therefore for not entrusting them with offices the duties whereof they are unfit to discharge. Indeed, the concessions the authorities have already made to the children of the soil are quite sufficient, and the people should endeavour to prove themselves worthy of them. As to the followers of Islam, they should act upon the adage "first deserve and then desire." It is bread, and not political rights, they stand most in need of; and they had better start trading companies and open factories in order to earn a living. They should give up hankering after what they are not qualified to possess. Besides, the utmost they could gain by establishing political associations would be to add a little to the number of Mussalmans in Government service. This, however, is not calculated to ameliorate the condition of the community at large.

Muhammadans and politics.

V.—NATIVE SOCIETIES AND RELIGIOUS MATTERS.

8. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 1st November 1903, after publishing the substance of two lectures recently delivered by Mr. Sievwright in the local Town Hall and the Islamia College on the subjects "Are Indians British subjects?" and "The Universality of Islam," respectively, announces that the gentleman has offered to work as a Mussalman missionary in Europe; but money is required for the purpose, and should Indian Muhammadans desire to subscribe, the Editor is willing to undertake the duty of remitting the collections to Mr. Sievwright.

Mr. Sievwright.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Agricultural Banks Bill.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th November 1903, approves of the Agricultural Banks Bill as likely to be beneficial to *samindars*, but remarks that it is a question whether they will prove as successful as they have in Europe. Government, adds the paper, has been paying attention to the question of agricultural improvement, and the speech of the Hon'ble Member who introduced the Bill in Council makes it abundantly clear that Government is sincerely desirous of bettering the lot of the *samindars*.

The same.

10. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 8th November 1903, remarks that no one can deny that agricultural banks are sorely needed in this country, and that the necessity is becoming more imperative daily; for the *samindars* having been forbidden to mortgage their lands (*sic*) it has become difficult for them to borrow from money-lenders. Although primarily meant for the good of the agriculturists, the banks in question are calculated to prove beneficial to *sahukars* also, in that the latter could invest in them the capital set free by the passing of the Land Alienation Act.

The Ancient Monuments Bill.

11. The same paper observes that the Bill to provide for the preservation of Ancient Monuments is nothing short of a blessing for which the people cannot thank Government sufficiently. The present Viceroy, adds the Editor, is a historian and antiquarian, and since his arrival in this country has caused several ancient buildings of interest to be repaired. His Excellency's policy in this respect is now to assume the form of a law according to which it will be an offence to destroy ancient monuments.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The Prince of Wales' coming visit to India.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th November 1903, writing about the coming visit of the Prince of Wales to India, states that a special train, which is estimated to cost about $3\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of rupees, is being constructed for the use of His Royal Highness. This should suffice to give an idea of the total expenditure the visit is likely to entail on the country. Only recently the Secretary of State declined to sanction the establishment of a Commercial Bureau in India on the score of expense. Is there no one to take notice of the waste of Indian money in connection with the Prince of Wales' visit?

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—20 11 03—70.

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st November 1903, writes as follows:—

The Tibet Mission.

"There is no doubt now as to the real character of the Tibetan Mission, and in England it is openly talked of as an 'expedition,' in which term Reuter referred to it in a telegram the other day. That a good deal more has been going in connection with the 'Mission' than has been apparent on the surface, is clear not only from recent developments, but further from the undreamt-of announcement made in an *Englishman* Special that Sir Walter Lawrence had reached London laden with important Tibetan despatches and was expected to leave England again for India on Friday (yesterday). This news must have taken the breath away from many a newspaper reader. Everybody understood, when Lord Curzon bade his late Private Secretary a tearful farewell, that Sir Walter was going home for good for the benefit of his wife's health as well as his own, and that India would not see his face again. But, if there be any truth in the *Englishman's* cablegram, we are now to understand that the great Private Secretary was carrying important despatches under his retiring clothes, and that having left the office of Private Secretary to the Viceroy, he was going to act as a confidential man to the British Government in a more important capacity. Apart from the significance of this fact, as implying deep-laid plans of which the public have hitherto had little suspicion, it is to be further understood that matters have proceeded very considerably when a special messenger has had to be sent to England with instructions to come back by the return mail. It means that the urgency of the case could not allow of the delay and uncertainties involved in the ordinary course of sending despatches and receiving replies by post or wire; also that there were things that could not be trusted to the agency of such means. Reuter's telegram confirms the view already expressed in India in certain quarters that the Chumbi Valley will probably be occupied, as that is the district most easy of access from Sikkim, while from it pressure could be brought to bear upon the authorities at Lhassa most effectively. In the expedition of 1888 General Graham, after defeating the Tibetan force, crossed into Chumbi, but he soon returned across the border as there was no intention then of adopting heroic measures with the Lamas. The present plan of making a military occupation of Chumbi is only a preparatory means to further action when the spiring comes round. The despatch reported by Reuter to have been sent to Lhassa by the Premier of Nepal is no less significant

in this connection. It needs no power of divination to see how the despatch came to be sent, and why the Nepalese authorities became so suddenly aroused to a sense of the necessity of the Lamas coming to terms with the British authorities. The latter have artfully adopted the plan of pitting the Nepalese against the Tibetans, there being an old-standing grudge between the two peoples, and Gurkha troops form a large component of the force accompanying the Mission to Thibet. * * * * Is Lord Curzon fired with the ambition of becoming another Lord Dufferin in regard to Tibet? In the case of Burma also the trading difficulty was the first excuse of interference."

Treatment by European Governments of the Natives of their Colonies.

2. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st November 1903, discusses the reply of the Belgian Government to the British protest against the Congo atrocities, and writes as follows :—

"The surprise of the world, however, has not been excited so much by the revelations that have been made with regard to the Congo State affairs, or by the explanation of the Belgian authorities, as by the fact that the same principle on which the Belgian anxiety for the idleness of the Congo native is based—and of which the horrible atrocities, compared with which the Russian persecutions of the Jews are but the mildest of persuasions, are the inevitable culmination—underlies Lord Milner's celebrated legislation for the 'advancement' of the native. And what adds still considerably to the surprise of the world is that the British people are the loudest in their condemnation of the Belgian method of obtaining labour. It is true that the principle—which even Lord Milner cannot deny is liable to abuse—will not be abused under British supervision to quite the same extent as characterised the policy of the hidalgos of Castile, or of the Congo State authorities. But this also is true that all the efforts to the contrary cannot prevent a dishonourable principle—a principle fundamentally opposed to the dictates of civilisation and commonsense—from being abused in one way or another, if not exactly on the Congo model. Justification for this benevolent legislation is sought in the otherwise unconquerable indolence of the native Africans. * * * * One may be inclined to wonder, by the way, why Europeans are at such pains to *justify* such of their dealings with the 'native' as may not appear honourable to the eyes of the world? Whom do they fear? The 'natives'? The idea! One another? Hardly; for are not all of them birds of the same feather? Is not France skinning Siam? Is not Russia mutilating Poland, and Germany following Russia's example with a vengeance? Is not the British Indian subject treated like a dog in the British Colonies? Whom do they fear then? God? Then their efforts have been made in the wrong direction; for He cannot be deceived. The penalty of irresponsibility is slow to come, but it comes nevertheless."

Indian immigrants in the Transvaal.

3. One Doctor Nur Hussain, Saleir, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 13th November 1903, remarks that the laws recently passed against Indian immigrants in the Transvaal are, with one or two exceptions, all based on justice. The immigrants in question are an ignorant and dirty lot and fully deserve the treatment proposed to be meted out to them. The correspondent is, however, of opinion that the law requiring every immigrant to obtain a "residential pass" at a cost of £3 is wholly unjust and uncalled for. Again, the Transvaal Government ought to have distinguished between educated and illiterate Indians, and treated the former in a more considerate manner. The law forbidding the natives of this country from residing in the Orange River Colony is also of an arbitrary nature and should be repealed without delay.

Commenting on the above the Editor expresses his inability to agree with the correspondent that the immigrants named deserve the treatment meted out to them. Nevertheless he deprecates their dirty habits, and remarks that it is impossible for them to win the respect of the colonists so long as they do not adopt European ways of living.

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), dated the 9th and 16th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15,186	3	9
Small subscriptions	32	0	0
Total ...	15,218	3	9*

The same.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th November 1903 ...	396	9	11
Small subscriptions	33	0	0
Total ...	429	9	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	12,198	9	8
Grand Total ...	12,628	3	7

The same.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), dated the 14th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	2,623	0	9
Small subscriptions	2	0	0
Total ...	2,625	0	9

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Government and the Amir.

7. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th November 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that the Ruler of Kabul could prove himself a friend and ally of Government only if he kept the latter informed of the movements of its enemies, and that otherwise Afghanistan must be considered a dead weight round the neck of India. He adds that, as it is, the Amir ill-requites the favours showered on him by Government, which not only supplies His Highness with money and war material, but helps him in administering his kingdom. The correspondent has no hesitation therefore in saying that the Amir is no true friend to Government and favours a Russian invasion of India. This being so, it behoves Government to reflect over the matter and abstain from helping its enemy.

*Of this sum Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Indian Universities Bill.

8. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th November 1903, in criticising the Indian Universities Bill writes as follows :—

"The Bill to amend the Acts under which the several Universities in India are incorporated which was introduced by the Hon'ble Mr. T. Raleigh a few days ago has already been referred to in general terms in these columns. The full text of the document has now been published, and we intend to discuss in some detail its various provisions. It must be stated at the outset that the changes proposed are of a radical character and fully in keeping with the spirit of reaction and retrogression which has inspired the administrative policy of the Government of India during the past ten years or so. It is quite true there is nothing in the Bill relating to some of the most obnoxious proposals recommended by a majority of the Indian Universities Commission. But the lines on which the new governing bodies of the Universities, *viz.*, the Syndicates, are proposed to be reconstituted are enough to cause reasonable anxiety and alarm. These bodies will contain very little of the independent Indian element, with the result that the Schools and Colleges affiliated to the University will be entirely at the mercy of the teachers and officers of the Educational Department. The more drastic of the proposals made by the Commission, it is well known, were wholly in accordance with the wishes of men who have always made it a grievance that educated Indians not directly connected with Schools and Colleges should have anything to do with the government of the Universities in India. Now that men of this class will be placed in a position to wield supreme if not absolute power, things are not at all likely to improve. The retrogressive character of the measure is stamped on most of the clauses of the Bill, and in one sense it may be regarded as a revocation of the charter of freedom in matters educational, first conceded in the great Educational Despatch of 1854 and subsequently renewed and reaffirmed in 1882 in the Report of the Indian Education Commission. In 1882 it was laid down with great emphasis and clearness that the control of the education of the people should be largely entrusted to the people themselves. This meant that in formulating their educational policy Government would take into their confidence the natural leaders of the people. That principle has been ruthlessly reversed in all that has been done in reorganising the educational arrangements of the country during the past five years. The whole matter has been surrounded by a secrecy and mystery which has caused considerable annoyance and led people to suspect the Government of sinister designs against the education of the country. The proceedings of the Educational Conference that met in Simla in September 1901 are still regarded as a strictly private and confidential document. * * * * * "

The same.

9. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th November 1903, remarks that it has from the very outset supported the recommendation of the Universities Commission regarding the enhancement of tuition fees for Colleges, with a view to make them real seats of learning. It is far more profitable for a country to possess only a few men of real culture and learning than to claim a large number of half-educated persons. History also bears testimony to the fact that while individuals of strong character and sound education have influenced the destiny of whole nations for the better, those of defective training and weak principles have brought about the downfall of their fellows. It should not be inferred from this that the Editor is on any account opposed to the education of the masses. He is, on the contrary, strongly in favour of Primary education being made more general. His sole contention is that only those who are fit for higher education should be sent to Colleges, and that

examinations alone should not be considered a test of learning. Again, the present system of education makes no provision for the enforcement of discipline and inculcation of good morals, with the result that Indian Colleges turn out selfish and conceited students, entertaining highly mistaken notions of liberty. It is very fortunate that Government is beginning to realise the defects of University education and has made up its mind to initiate certain salutary reforms. The Editor then publishes the substance of the Universities Bill recently introduced by Mr. Raleigh in Council.

The Agricultural Banks Bill.

10. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 12th November 1903, writing about the Agricultural Banks Bill, remarks that in order to make the measure a success it is necessary that District Officers should receive hearty assistance from *Raises*. The experiment, adds the Editor, should be considered to have been successful if it only enables respectable agriculturists to obtain loans at reasonable rates of interest or induces *Sahukars* to lend money on similar terms. He would call upon the well-to-do among the people to lend a helping hand to Government in its generous undertaking, so as to make the scheme of some practical advantage to poor agriculturists.

The Ancient Monuments Bill.

11. The *Piasa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th November 1903, approves of the Bill for the preservation of Ancient Monuments, and remarks that some such measure was very sorely needed in India. Similar laws obtain in all civilised countries, and it was only in the fitness of things that the Government of India also should have done something for the preservation of antiquities.

VII.—General Administration.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Grazing in Government *rakhs* during fodder famines.

12. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th November 1903, remarks that in spite of Government orders that during seasons of fodder scarcity Government *rakhs* should be thrown open to grazing, there is little or no likelihood of the *Zamindars* benefitting by the concession. And this for the reason, that it is very seldom that the authorities admit the presence of famine in the country. For instance, during the terrible famine of 1897, when people were being starved to death by the thousand, Lord Elgin persisted in stating that the country was suffering only from a "scarcity of grain." The Editor then goes on to say that the milk of the cow which formerly entered so largely into the dietary of the poor has become so dear under the present rule that only the rich can afford to buy it. This is due chiefly to *rakhs* being closed to grazing and the land revenue having been so much enhanced that the *Zamindars* are obliged to cultivate even inferior land in order to meet the demand. It is true that of late the population of the country has also increased, but not to such an extent as to be beyond the productive power of the soil to supply the people with food. If some restriction were placed on the export of grain to foreign lands, famines would become unknown in India. As, however, there is no likelihood of Government entertaining such a proposal, the Editor forbears from laying stress on it.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Difference in the treatment accorded to Europeans and Natives by British Officers.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th November 1903, writes as follows:—

"In one of its brighter moods the *Pioneer* was led to confess that 'a certain class of Political Officers (a late Resident of Hyderabad for instance) would manage to do much mischief.' Lots of animals there are upon earth (not excluding some of those of human origin) who are not distinguished for wisdom, but why a certain animal with a sonorous voice and an uncompromising musical disposition should alone be eternally condemned on that score is more than one can clearly understand. It is, of course, needless to remind the *Pioneer* that 'a late Resident of Hyderabad' is not a solitary exception. We shall not draw upon past instances to prove this fact, for there is no dearth of 'recent' instances. Scarcely has the sensation created by the fate of a poor Rajput Chief died out when a painful story, almost blood-curdling in its significance, is wired to us from Shillong. A couple of murders appear to have been recently committed in the State of Mansinram ruled by a Khasia Chief called Raja Samborai. The Police, true to its illustrious traditions, intimated to the Deputy Commissioner of Shillong (in his capacity of Political Officer of the Khasia Hills) their suspicions that it was the Raja at whose instigation and orders the murders had been committed. The Political Officer did not enquire, as he ought most assuredly to have done, into the grounds, if there were any, of their suspicions, but sent a body of armed Police to Mansinram and got the Raja with some of his attendants arrested and put in *hawalát*, in deliberate disregard of the fact that a Khasia Chief, when accused of murder is entitled by treaty to no departure from the rule usually observed in the case of other 'Native' Chiefs of India. The Raja's brother prepared a telegram to be sent to the Chief Commissioner, who was on tour, but the Raja was not allowed to sign his name to the telegraphic form! So his brother despatched the telegram on his own responsibility. The Assistant Commissioner of Shillong was also approached with a request to permit the Raja to live in a dâk bungalow pending his trial, but the great man would not listen to it. It was also decided that next morning the Raja with his attendants would have to march *on foot* to Cherrapunji—*some thirty miles*—to be placed before the Political Officer. But much to the chagrin of the Police and the Political Officer, the proposed grand climax was nipped in the bud by a telegram from the Chief Commissioner ordering the immediate release of the Raja from *hawalát*. A European Assistant Manager of a tea-garden, accused of murdering a poor coolie with a leather strap, was allowed to live in a dâk bungalow, with all its attending comforts, pending his trial, and, when sentenced to imprisonment, was carried to the Presidency jail in a first-class railway carriage! And a 'Native' Chief, only *suspected* of murder, is put in *hawalát* without an enquiry into his case—his request to be removed to a dâk bungalow, and even to sign a telegram to the Chief Commissioner, deliberately refused—and he is saved by the merest chance from the crowing indignity of being marched *thirty long miles on foot* to be placed before the Political Officer!"

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—1-12-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 28th November 1903.

I.—POLITICAL.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 13th November ...		429	9	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	20	0	0
Total	...	449	9	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
Total	...	12,648	3	7

(*b*)—*Home.*

Government and the people.

2. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 10th November 1903, remarks that in its issue of the 8th November the *Hitvarta* of Calcutta says that the English had some difficulty in obtaining possession of India. By practising deception on the people, however, they gained their object, since when they have been the rulers of this land. There can be no doubt, adds the Editor, that natives were badly imposed upon. They were aware of the crooked ways of the English, but at the same time they were under the impression that their new rulers were a "miraculous people." Besides, the policy then followed by the Government of India had the effect of winning the hearts of the children of the soil. The Editor then goes on to say that India has been in a bad way since the advent of the English, who carry away Indian wealth to their own country. The result is that the people live on the verge of starvation, notwithstanding which new taxes are daily imposed on them. It is a vain effort to move Government in the matter, however loud the people's com-

plaints. Quite a number of Viceroys have come and gone, but not one of them has listened to the grievances of the natives of India. A King's duty consists in looking after the welfare of his subjects, but the English seem to be perfectly oblivious of this. They flit from London to Calcutta and from there to Simla wasting Indian money, which should be spent in supplying the wants of destitute natives. Again, they try to serve their ends by conferring a few titles on simple natives or by spending a little money. The Editor further remarks that the gallant *goras* daily kill natives, but that the sympathy of their fellow countrymen literally blinds justice and the culprits escape scot free. It has been held that Qamar-ud-Dín was not murdered by Private Emerson, but Government has failed to lay hands on the real murderer. Nor is this all. It is humouring Emerson and has given him Rs. 400 to start in business in London; while it has not spared even a farthing for the young children of Qamar-ud-Dín. Should the people raise an outcry in order to divert Government's attention to such hard cases, they are branded as mad men. Nevertheless, Government should remember that it will have to change its policy, for no one can ever continue in the same condition. In conclusion, the Editor says that the people expected better treatment at the hands of Lord Curzon, but that it now turns out they had been building on sand.

III.—Native States.

The ex-Raja of Bharatpur.

3. The *Sadiq-ul Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th November 1903, states that the ex-Raja of Bharatpur who brought upon himself the wrath of Government for following the advice of evil counsellors was eventually deposed in favour of his young son. His Highness was, however, allowed to reside in the vicinity of his former capital. The mistake was soon rectified, and in a strange way. One day the young Raja of Bharatpur was taken out for airing to that side of the city where his father resided. He was met on the way by his father, who clasped him to his heart and prayed for his welfare. The matter was brought to the notice of the Political Agent, who informed the Government of India, with the result that the ex-Raja was banished to Deoli. The Editor adds that the banishment of the former Raja is sorely felt by the residents of Bharatpur.

V.—Native Societies, &c.

The Sharif of Mecca.

4. The *Lahore Punch* (Lahore), of 18th November 1903, reprints a letter charging the Sharif of Mecca with practising oppression on pilgrims to the Hedjaz, and says that the *Paisa Akhbar* vouches for the respectability of the correspondent. This is not, adds the Editor, the first complaint in the Press against the Sharif, Indian as well as Egyptian newspapers having written against that official more than once. If the Sharif is the oppressor he is represented to be, respectable and educated pilgrims should bring the matter to the notice of the Sultan.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—2 12-03-70.

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 20th November 1903 ...	...	449	9	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	140	0	0
Total	...	589	9	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
Grand Total	...	12,788	3	7

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	2,325	0	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	0	0
Total	...	2,330	0	9

The Sultan and the Powers.

3. The *Akkbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1903, remarks that, in writing about the Sultan's treatment by the Powers, Muhammadan newspapers consider it inexpedient to be really outspoken. A Hindu jour-

nalist cannot be suspected of taking up arms in defence of the Sultan should he come to regard the latter as a victim, whereas a Musalman Editor could easily rouse such a suspicion. And this being so, the Editor has no hesitation in saying that the Christian powers in Europe have been treating Abdul Hamid in a grossly oppressive and high-handed manner, and the oppression is sought to be covered over with high-sounding words such as "Reform" and "Philanthropy." At least one of the Powers which are bringing pressure to bear on Turkey to adopt their scheme of reform should "clean its own face before daring to raise its finger against her." A Power (the reference is to Russia) within whose own dominions oppression and extortion are the order of the day should not have the effrontery to espouse the cause of the subjects of another in order to get itself called the "champion of outraged humanity." The Editor then goes on to say that, although a certain section of educated Muhammadans consider it to their interest to conceal their real sentiments from Government, still he can say without fear of contradiction that the entire Musalman newspaper-reading public keenly feel for the Sultan. And being a sincere well-wisher of Government, he hastens to inform it that the Prophet's followers in India are greatly concerned at the Powers' intentions to drive the Turks out of Europe. Whatever, therefore, others may do, the British Government, which rules over six crores of Muhammadan subjects in India alone, ought to reassure the latter by rendering every legitimate assistance to Abdul Hamid. It may be said that the anger of Indian Muhammadans is a harmless thing, and that Government is strong enough to take care of itself; but it is hardly statesmanlike in a Government to create uneasiness amongst a large section of its subjects.

The same.

4. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 15th November 1903, remarks that the *Madras Times*, which on a former occasion warned Government against enlisting Indian Musalmans in the Army, alleging that they are disloyal at heart and would not scruple to disregard their allegiance to the Government and declare for the Sultan, has recently published another mischievous article urging the European Powers to turn the Turks out of Constantinople. The Editor goes on to say that it is nothing short of moral weakness on the part of these papers to champion the cause of a rebellious and mutinious people against their lawful sovereign. He adds that no unprejudiced person will deny that the Bulgarian insurgents are mainly responsible for the troubles in Macedonia, and that they counted upon European intervention on their behalf.

England, Russia and Kabul.

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st December 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer takes the Government to task for its shilly-shallying policy with regard to Russia. The Amir cannot be relied upon, and the Government is placing itself in the power of an enemy. The best course for the present would be to secure advantageous terms in the new treaty that is under consideration. Care should be taken that Russia does not possess herself of certain tracts adjoining Turkistan, for if she succeeds there, India will fall an easy prey to her.

6. The same paper publishes a cartoon in which the Government of India is seen offering a stag labelled "The Subsidy of 18 lakhs" to the "Wolf of Afghanistan." The letter-press runs as follows:—

Government and the Amir.

"How is it that the Lord of Creation feeds ravenous beasts, forgetting the saying that the wolf does not forget its nature though brought up amongst human beings?"

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 19th November, publishes a paragraph to the effect that India is a *Dar-ul-Islam*. A *Dar-ul-Harb* is a land where Muhammadans are not allowed to perform their religious rites and where the rulers insult Islam. This is not the case in India, where the authorities treat Musalmans with every consideration. This being so, it behoves the Prophet's followers in this country to be devotedly loyal to the present Government, in defence of which they should always be ready to lay down their lives.

Government and Muhammadans.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1903, after publishing the substance of the paper read by Mr. Skrine at the Imperial Institute, London, on "European Rule in Asia," expresses the hope that the moral of the paper will not be lost upon our Anglo-Indian rulers.

Government and the people.

9. The same paper, of the 28th November 1903, publishes a communication in which the writer says that should Russia invade India she will be resisted by no less than twelve hundred thousand Musalmans, excluding those in the Army. For the last thirteen hundred years Musalmans have wielded the sword, and have ever preferred death to dishonour. Their love for their faith is so great that quite recently several thousands of Musalman families migrated to Turkey from Batoum, Algeria, &c, where they were denied a free exercise of their religion. It is true that in Russian territory Musalmans enjoy greater freedom, seeing that their religious disputes are decided according to Muhammadan law by *Qazis*; yet they cannot easily forget the devastation of Turkistan and the wholesale murder of Uzbegs at the hands of Russian soldiery. After remarking that it is very unfortunate that under British rule a distinction is made between the rulers and the ruled, the writer says that Muhammadans can be thoroughly relied upon in an emergency. He concludes by expressing the hope that the Government of India will not break with Kabul and thereby afford Russia an opportunity to court successfully the friendship of Afghanistan.

The same.

III.—Native States.

10. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 29th November 1903, says that the agricultural population of India is indebted to the British Government for its present prosperous condition. Those who before the advent of British

The blessings of British rule.

rule could not afford to buy themselves coarse muslin or longcloth are now decked out in brocades and velvet. A zamindar who nowadays owns a few bighas of land can maintain himself decently, while fifty years ago even those who possessed three or four villages found it hard to pay Government revenue. Land is now considered a very valuable possession, and of late years its price has gone up by leaps and bounds. Rulers of Native States also are beginning to find their land a source of considerable income. Those who formerly employed only one Munshi to collect revenue have now to engage the services of a full establishment for the purpose. But with all this, the treasuries of most of the States are generally found empty, the reason being that, unlike their forefathers, the Native Princes of today have acquired very extravagant habits. The Editor concludes by suggesting that the Chiefs in question would be well advised to take to heart the Viceroy's advice to maintain a clear line between public and private expenditure.

Government and Native Chiefs.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th of November 1903, says that, far from meddling unnecessarily in the affairs of its feudatory States, Government takes a keen interest in their prosperity and welfare. Indeed, whenever it gets an opportunity it does not hesitate to give wholesome advice to Native Chiefs. It is very gratifying, adds the Editor, that the latter are beginning to profit by this advice; and on more than one occasion they have given practical proof of their devotion for and loyalty to the Supreme Government.

Native Chiefs and Political Officers.

12. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1903, says that in his recent speech at Bahawalpur Lord Curzon observed that Native Chiefs should look upon Political Officers as merely their friends and advisers. It is, however, much easier for his Lordship to speak such words than it is for the Chiefs to act upon them. Instances are on record in which Indian Princes who have followed the Viceroy's advice have had to pay very dear for the mistake. Should a Chief disobey any improper orders by a Resident, or should he hesitate, on however strong and reasonable grounds, to adopt a proposal put forward by the Resident, "he is so dealt with as to make him envy the lot of an ordinary gentleman." Again, in cases of difference of opinion between the Ruler of a Native State and his Resident, Government makes a point of supporting the latter, although justice may be on the side of the former. Indian Princes cannot consequently afford to follow the Viceroy's advice, unless, of course, His Excellency restricts the powers of Political Officers.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Official Secrets Bill.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1903, says that the fate of the Official Secrets Bill is being anxiously awaited. Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and a few other well-wishers of India have submitted a memorial to the Secretary of State protesting against the Bill. After remarking that Anglo-Indian papers should raise their voice against the proposed legislation, the Editor expresses the hope that a liberal-minded Viceroy like Lord Curzon will not give his assent to a measure calculated to destroy the liberty of the press.

14. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 21st November 1903, refers to the present difficulties of zamindars and remarks that the proposed Agricultural Banks are certain to prove the saving of those for whom they are intended. The projected institutions may be relied upon to become thoroughly popular and ensure the prosperity of agriculturists, who will be enabled to borrow at reasonable rates of interest. The Editor then exhorts capitalists and other well-to-do persons to invest their money in the said banks and thereby enable Government to make the project a success.

Agricultural Banks.

VII.—General Administration.

(*c*)—*Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.*

15. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th November 1903, says that the existing method of assessing the Income Tax is susceptible of considerable improvement. It not only leads to the people being subjected to unnecessary hardship, but inflicts positive loss on Government. Nothing is further from Government's intention than that the really poor should be taxed or the rich and well-to-do, through their influence, be under-assessed. And yet this is the real state of affairs, the blame for which must be laid at the door of Tahsildars. The evil, adds the Editor, cannot be removed so long as the assessments made by Tahsildars are not checked by able and honest higher officers. He further complains that Tahsildars are in the habit of imposing income tax on the strength of anonymous complaints or the flimsiest of suspicions and without examining the accounts of persons assessed.

Assessment of the Income Tax.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

16. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 3rd December 1903, writing about the speeches made at the St. Andrew's Day Dinner in Calcutta, says:—

St. Andrew's Day Dinner in Calcutta.

"From the newspaper man's point of view it is rather disappointing that the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal did not tread over any political ground and confined himself to the purest social courtesies. * * * *

"It is a pity that in no part of the Lieutenant-Governor's speech is there any reference to India or the Indians as a constituency of the 'Empire.' Perhaps there being no Indian among the 'guests' whose toast was being proposed, there was no opening for such a reference. Perhaps it was also because India represents no form of 'Imperial activities,' but only the passive capacity of suffering. But was not the feast being held in the land of the Indians, and is not India the central unit without which the Imperial idea must fall into pieces? Indians, however, must train themselves to look with patience and self-control, holding the water in their mouth, while others feast and enjoy themselves at their cost."

17. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1903, says that in view of the apprehension that the plague is not likely to abate in virulence during the current year, the Government was wrong in abandoning its plague policy. Granting that the public did not cordially co-operate with it in stamping out the epidemic, still an enlightened Government cannot excuse itself from doing its duty towards the people who in their ignorance failed to appreciate its intentions.

Government's new Plague Policy.

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I.—POLITICAL.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 30th November 1903, remarks that the news regarding the despatch of a Mission to Tibet has caused uneasiness in both China and Russia. Government, however, does not wish to take possession of Tibet, its sole object being to establish commercial relations with that country. Nevertheless it is under contemplation to occupy the Chambi Valley in order to ensure that the Tibetans shall pay due regard to the treaties entered into between them and Government. The writer adds that it is far better that Tibet should come under British rule than that it should become a Russian possession, although there is no likelihood of Government annexing the land of the Lamas for fear of offending Japan.

A Russian invasion of India.

2. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th December 1903, states that the question whether Russia can invade India has been exciting the public mind for a long time past. The *Muslim Chronicle*, writing on the subject, remarks that the saftey of India is to a great measure due to the presence of the Muhammadan population in the Punjab. The *Khalsa Gazette* endorses the above view, dwelling at the same time on the importance of the Sikhs in the defence of the empire. The Editor, however, is of opinion that but for the friendly attitude of the Amir towards Government, India would have long since been overrun by Russia. Natives are also indebted for their safety and protection to Government's friendly policy towards Kabul It is therefore to be earnestly hoped that the existing relations between the Amir and Government will continue, and that the latter will go on subsidising the former at the old rate. It would be impolitic to reduce the subsidy and thereby lose the services of a useful and faithful friend like the Amir.

Atrocities committed by Macedonian rebels.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th December 1903, publishes a sketch sent to it by a correspondent, who obtained the same from a Macedonian rebel. The picture shows how two members of a Turkish infantry regiment were recently tortured to death by a number of rebels in Macedonia. The Editor's comment on the painting is:—"How mercilessly Christian butchers are slaughtering the Turks."

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th and 7th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15,243	3	9
Small subscriptions	66	11	0
Total ...	*15,309	14	9

*Of this sum Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople through the National Bank.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 4th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on 27th November 1903 ...	589	9	11
Small subscriptions	54	8	0
Total ...	644	1	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	12,198	9	8
Total ...	12,842	11	7

(*b*)—*Home.*

6. The following appears in the *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi) of the 9th December 1903:—

The National Congress.

"The Indian National Congress is going to be a failure this time, and all the preparations to be made by the Madrasees are to end in a *fiasco* only. The people have lost all enthusiasm about the Congress and seem to have given it up in despair. When at the last Congress the Punjabees as a body refrained from joining the movement, we anticipated its end. No institution can stand on its legs for a long time where there is want of hearty co-operation and real enthusiasm among its members. The people of the country, *en masse*, have a natural antipathy to join any movement against the Government, and no amount of eloquence and persuasion will ever compel them to relinquish their Laodicean policy. The so-called Indian patriots caused a temporary excitement in the mind of the English-knowing populace, but this vanished as soon as the external stimulus was removed. Now, in our humble opinion, the best efforts of the leading *Congress wallas* cannot succeed in shaking off the lethargy of the people in the direction. Call it either a moral paralysis or an inevitable sign of India's ruin, but the people are never more to lose their strange apathy for the Congress movement. We feel a genuine sorrow at the precarious condition of an institution which had been doing some good to the country. But we must at the same time admit that it has done incalculable mischief also to our country. It has aroused the highest political aspirations in the minds of the Indian youths, who have no financial or pecuniary stability to support them through the struggles of the world. It has made certain high Government officials bitter enemies of the Indians and lose the regard which they had for them before. It has imposed many hardships upon those who are desirous of joining the holy fraternity of quill-drivers and has made them wrecks in the voyage of life. It is, therefore, our earnest desire to see the institution (if it is to thrive at all) proceeding on some other lines and sounder principles."

7. The *Akbbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 1st December 1903, says that the reports received from Madras regarding the forthcoming Session of the National Congress are far from reassuring. After remarking that Congress Meetings lead to a considerable waste of money, the Editor observes that, the Punjabis being a practical people and the Congress having so far indulged only in theories, no delegate from this province is likely to attend the meeting at Madras. He adds that the departure to Calcutta of Rai Bahadur K. P. Roy has taken all vitality out of the Congress movement in the Punjab.

The coming Session of the National Congress and the Punjab.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

8. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 9th December 1903, in an article under the heading "A Draconian Legislation," writes as follows:—

The Official Secrets Bill.

"On Friday last was witnessed a scene in the Viceroy's Council, held at Calcutta, which was quite unprecedented in the history of that body. But we are not surprised at it. Nor have the Government a right to be surprised when, in defiance of the dictates of a civilized conscience, in defiance of a unanimous public opinion and above all in defiance of the best and noblest traditions of England's rule, they would seek to perpetuate the terrors of Inquisition after a benign and successful rule of more than a century in this country. The Official Secrets Bill was brought on the legislative anvil in the meeting of the Council presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. Raleigh. The Hon'ble Mr. Arundle, in charge of the Bill, formally moved that the measure be referred to a Select Committee. * * The entire public of this country, Indian and Anglo-Indian, has been protesting against the measure, these last three months, with a unanimity which had only one other precedent, when Mr. Brodrick wanted to burden the Indian Treasury with the cost of the South African garrison, but owing to the pressure brought to bear upon him by public opinion had to eat humble pie. Yet Lord Curzon's Government has been turning a deaf ear to the unanimous voice of the people and seem to be determined to provide a legislation that should have the desired effect of stifling that very voice. It is difficult to believe that a Viceroy who has shown so much deference to public opinion in the past should now disregard it so much as to see enacted a measure in utter defiance of it. Lord Curzon must remember that it was he who had given so much impetus to the growth of a healthy public opinion in this country, as voiced through its Press. If his Government have now become so callous to the voice of reason as to render that public opinion ineffective by legislation, it would not only not redound to his credit, but would also take 'the shine out' of the many beneficient measures inaugurated by him in this country.

'That the proposed Bill will have this effect, is not very difficult to see. The simple provision that the crime committed under the Act would be 'cognizable' and 'non-bailable' is enough to put a stop to the liberty of the press and throttle *vox populi*, which no other civilized Government would ever think of doing. It would be placing one more instrument of oppression in the hands of the police, which has already so much in its power to terrorise and tyrannise over the people. * * * After all what necessity has arisen that such a Draconian legislation has been in contemplation? There is already in existence a legislative measure—Act XV of 1889—which has so far worked quite effectively in guarding against the disclosure of official secrets. * * * * * We hope Lord Curzon will, on returning from his Gulf tour, take the earliest opportunity to burke the Bill, which his Government are now busying themselves to pass into an Act. We do not oppose the Bill because we want that there should be no official secrets. By all means, have official secrets about Naval and Military affairs. But in Civil affairs everything should be done in an open and straightforward manner.

For this alone can keep the confidence of the Indian people unshaken in England's beneficent mission in this country. To govern three hunderd millions of alien peoples without inspiring trust in them as to the purity of your intention is a serious political mistake which a statesman of Lord Curzon's calibre should not commit."

The same.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1903, writes as follows:—

"The anxiety of the Government to pass a new Official Secrets Bill, to which both the Anglo-Indian and Native sections of the Press are opposed, means two things,—(1) that the Government is prepared to introduce legislation based on objectionable principles; and (2) that there are things on the Government's hands information regarding which requires to be guarded most jealously, and to prevent which information leaking out it requires the aid of such extraordinary legislation. The Government cannot thus be regarded to be in a particularly happy situation, and the fierce displeasure of the leading Anglo Indian journals makes the situation worse.* * *"

VII.—General Administation.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The Administration of justice in India.

10. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore) of the 12th December 1903:—

"In a comparatively non-criminal country like India the overcrowding of jails and the overstraining of the gallows are phenomena which are difficult to explain but for the wails of anguish which occasionally go forth from the Government on the paucity of convictions in Indian Courts. To the great humiliation of British rule and British 'prestige' in India, affairs have come to this pass that none but a 'convicting' Magistrate can look forward to adequate reward for his services, however meritorious from the human point of view; and a retired Anglo-Indian Judge was openly telling the world some time ago how his promotion was stopped because he could not show a large percentage of convictions! The latest feat of a typical 'convicting' Magistrate in a case of Crown prosecution was thus alluded to by the Hon'ble the Chief Justice of Bengal the other day:—'It is unfortunate, I and my colleagues think, that this prosecution should have been conducted with so much animosity and pertinacity. In the case of Crown prosecutions in England, where the Attorney-General or Solicitor-General is conducting the case for the prosecution, there is never any the least vestige of animosity or prejudice. It is regrettable that the practice and procedure here in India is different, and I see no reason why that prevailing in England should not be adopted.' In India both the Public Prosecutor and the Judge are dead against the accused, but of course they are less to blame than the hands that direct from behind. We hope the pointed reference to the scandal from the Chief Justice of Bengal will not be without its effect."

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The plague.

11. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 6th December 1903, remarks that although the plague continues to work havoc in the country, Government does absolutely nothing to save life. When the disease first appeared in India, Government did its utmost to afford protection to the people, spending money like water in the attempt. Unfortunately, however, the oppression practised by native plague officials gave offence to the people, who made loud complaints. This led Government to abandon its plague administration and leave the people to shift for themselves. The result is that the epidemic has been spreading, a fact which has greatly exercised sensible persons. The Editor then exhorts Government to abandon its present policy of indifference and pay no regard to the opposition of the ignorant to its plague measures.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—18-12-03—70.

[Confidential.]

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Nil.	

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVI.] [No. 50.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 19th December 1903.

I.—POLITICAL.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Lord Curzon's visit to the Persian Gulf.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th December 1903, remarks that, although it cannot be expected that the political results of Lord Curzon's trip to the Persian Gulf will become public soon, still there can be no doubt that His Lordship has left no stone unturned to make the local tribes, Sheikhs and Sardars understand that the British Government will not allow any other Power to interfere in the affairs of the Gulf. And the conduct of those to whom these words were addressed leaves no room for doubt that they have been fully convinced of the truth of the utterance, which is not a small success. The Bushire incident, however, must have taken away from the effect considerably and cooled the ardour of Lord Curzon. The Persian Government's order to Prince Ala-ud-Dolah, who had been specially deputed to Bushire to receive the Viceroy, to pay only a return visit to the latter must have been issued at the instance of Russia. In other words Russia has checkmated Lord Curzon, *i. e.* the British Government, and has told the latter in so many words that Persia is a mere puppet in the hands of the Muscovite Government.

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1903, writing on the same subject, remarks that the trip will undoubtedly have the effect of making England supreme in the Gulf. Although, adds the Editor, it is difficult to say anything for certain, it is not unlikely that Lord Curzon has concluded new treaties with the Sheikhs.

The same.

3. The *Sada-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1903, says that Lord Curzon not having been accorded at Bushire the splendid reception he expected to receive, His Excellency declined to leave his ship. The Shah, however, is in no way to blame for the incident, while the elaborate arrangements natives are in the habit of making on the arrival of Anglo-Indian officials in their midst are unknown in other countries. But Lord Curzon, who was in a way still fresh from the Delhi Darbar, could hardly be expected to behave otherwise than he did.

The Powers and the Sultan.

4. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 16th December 1903, remarks that it has more than once been pointed out in its columns that the high-handed way in which the Christian Powers of Europe have been treating the Sultan

gives great offence to Indian Muhammadans. And although expediency may induce the last-named to conceal their feelings, still it is a fact that they feel very keenly in the matter. The Editor adds that when even the most sedate among Muhammadan Journalists find it difficult to suppress their indignation, it should be easy to form an estimate of the feelings of the ignorant masses. In conclusion the Editor regrets that by siding with the Sultan's enemies the British Government should have wounded the feelings of seven crores of its Muhammadan subjects, and lost the advantages which friendship with Turkey would have brought it.

The Hedjaz Railway.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,309	14	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	17	8	0
Total	...	15,327	6	9

The same.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 4th December 1903		644	1	11
Small subscriptions ...	...	812	0	0
Total	...	1,456	1	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
Grand Total	...	13,654	11	7

The same.

7. The *Tehsil-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 12th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	1,026	3	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	113	0	0
Total	...	1,139	3	0
Deduct amount remitted to Turkey	...	1,127	2	0
Balance	...	12	1	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	5	0	0
Total	...	17	1	0

(*b*) *Home.*

8. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th December 1903, in an article under the heading "The partition of Bengal," comments as follows on the proposed redistribution of the territories administered by the Governments of Bengal, Assam and the Central Provinces.

The partition of Bengal.

"The increase of litigation attributed to the spread of English education and the diffusion of the Native Press is certainly difficult to understand. Nor is it clear why organic changes in the administration should not suffice to meet the difficulties due to increase in population and its concomitants. The statement that 'it is beyond dispute that the administration of Bengal with an area of 189,000 square miles, a gross revenue of 1,137 lakhs of which 505 lakhs are derived from land revenue, is too heavy a burden for one man, and that it cannot be adequately discharged, save at the expense of efficiency,' * * * * * * There is certainly nothing in the Permanent Settlement to make District Officers out of touch with the people, and it is not clear why the Government should know less of its officers because the Provincial administration comprises a larger area than is the case with other administrations. The causes of the absence of personal relations between the head of the district and his people are altogether independent of the size and extent of territorial jurisdiction of a local Government and Administration. The laxity in administration which is certainly noticeable in Bengal is traceable to the fact that the weakness shown by a succession of reactionary Lieutenant-Governors, who did not care to cultivate Indian public opinion, encouraged the officials to get out of hand. When the head of a Provincial administration cares more for the prestige of his officers than for a proper discharge of their duties, things are bound to get out of control. During the past two decades Bengal has had the misfortune of being ruled by at least three Lieutenant-Governors of the type we have referred to. We do not think that it will be possible to secure an increased contact between the people and the administration merely by curtailing the territorial jurisdiction of the Lieutenant-Governor. * * * The area proposed to be transferred to the Central Provinces is 22,000 square miles with a population of 3,599,000, or 15,000 square miles with a population of 2,421,000, if the districts of Hazaribagh and Manbhum are left alone. The Central Provinces as a politically backward charge are administered by a Chief Commissioner, and the people of any district at present comprised in Bengal will be loth to be relegated to an inferior administrative status. It is not denied that the judicial administration in Bengal stands on a far higher level than is the case in any non-Regulation Province in India, and the transfer of any districts from Bengal to the Central Provinces would certainly constitute a great hardship to the people concerned.

"The proposed transfer of three important divisions to Assam is what is sure to give rise to the most adverse criticism. These divisions cover an area of 9,000 square miles with a population of 6,564,000 and land revenue of 17 lakhs. Sir William Ward in 1876 first made this proposal. But Sir Henry Cotton in 1897 opposed it. The present Chief Commissioner, whilst generally approving of it, is careful to point out that the change would mean the annexation of Assam by Eastern Bengal rather than the absorption of Eastern Bengal in Assam * * * *."

VI.—LEGISLATION.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 11th December 1903, remarks that the passing of the Official Secrets Bill into law will strike the death-knell of the liberty of the Native Press. After remarking that the provisions of the Bill contravene some of the fundamental principles of British law, the Editor says that it is under contemplation to make every offence under the

The Official Secrets Bill.

proposed law cognizable and non-bailable. This can only mean that the Police are to be given the power to arrest any journalist on suspicion, throw him into the *havalat*, and refuse to release him on bail. And all this perhaps owing to the poor Editor having published some ordinary official intelligence. It is, however, a matter of gratification that not only the Native Press, but several Anglo-Indian newspapers also, have condemned the Bill.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—2-1-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1909.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	Tri-weekly.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,500 copies.
	Bi-weekly.			
2	Punjab Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 "
	Weekly.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 "
	URDU.			
	Daily.			
6	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	3,800 copies.
7	Paisa Akhbar ...	Do. ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	...
8	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 copies.
	Bi-Weekly.			
9	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	...
10	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Muhammad ...	1,500 copies.
	Weekly.			
11	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	500 copies.
12	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 "
13	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	...
14	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	1,400 copies.
15	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	400 "

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1903—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
16	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,450 copies.
17	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,721 „
18	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	450 „
19	Edward Gazette .	Kasur, Lahore District ...	Kartar Singh ...	...
20	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	500 copies.
21	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,570 „
22	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	...
23	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Husain, ...	150 copies.
24	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 „
25	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	30 „
26	Khalsa Bahadur ...	Lahore ...	Rajindar Singh ...	500 „
27	Koh-i-Nur ...	Do. ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 „
28	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 „
29	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 „
30	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbúb 'Alam ...	13,000 „
31	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 „
32	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Bishen Singh ...	500 „
33	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal ...	650 „
34	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	600 „
35	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 „
36	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	3,200 „

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1903—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
37	Panja-i-Fauhad ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Din ...	600 copies.
38	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	300 "
39	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ula ...	360 "
40	Do. ...	Rewari ...	Maqbul Husain ...	...
41	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Hari Kishen ...	600 copies.
42	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	600 "
43	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	150 "
44	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 "
45	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mir Mumtaz Ali ...	240 "
46	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	500 "
47	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,960 "
48	Wafadar Delhi Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 "
49	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,400 "
50	Zamindár ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	500 "
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
51	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Zia-ulla Beg	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
52	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 copies.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1903—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	MONTHLY.			
53	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 copies.
54	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 "
55	Sarin Sabha Journal ...	Hoshiarpur ...	Ganesh Das and Dev Raj	250 "
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
56	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 1.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th January 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Russia and Japan.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th December 1903, remarks that the political horizon in the Far East has been overcast all of a sudden, and that a war between Russia and Japan does not seem improbable. Indeed, the war fever in the latter country is already at its highest, a state of affairs ascribable to the Russian reply to the Japanese Note. It is interesting to enquire, adds the Editor, if, in the event of a war breaking out, the combatants will be allowed to fight it out between themselves, or if other Powers will take a hand in the game. Judging by his experience of the past, he can say that Russia and Japan will not be interfered with, and that other Powers will act the part of mere spectators. The majority of them would like to see Japan disgraced, for the Christian Powers of Europe as well as the United States of America are not favourably disposed towards non-Christian and non-European countries, especially towards Turkey and Japan, which are in a position to defend themselves, and have been adding to their strength by every means in their power. The apprehended war can, therefore, end only one way. However strong and brave Japan may be, she cannot fight Russia for long single-handed. Were, however, England to help her ally in the Far East with some ships, &c., and raise complications in Persia and Afghanistan with the object of dividing Russia's attention, the struggle would be prolonged. The Editor further remarks that the war will enable Turkey to pacify Bulgaria, although this will be no compensation for the weakening of Japan, the pride of Asia and the well-wisher of India.

European Powers and Muhammadan Kingdoms.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th December 1903, says that England and France, which were once hostile to each other, have now become friends. These Powers have been casting longing glances at Islmalic possessions, and this reunion will make it easier for them to realise their desires. For example, England has made herself virtual master of Egypt, though she could have been easily compelled by Turkey and other Powers to evacuate that country. Now, however, that France has become her ally and will not object to her occupation of Egypt, it has become difficult to make her

give up that possession. Again, the recent renewal of a coalition between England and Italy will have the result of inducing the former to try to obtain Tripolis, just as France has been thinking of taking possession of Morocco. After remarking that Germany has established friendly relations with Turkey merely to extend her trade to Asia Minor, the Editor observes that the coalition of European Powers can in no way prove beneficial to the interests of Islamic Kingdoms.

Study of Hindustani by Russian Military Officers.

3. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 19th December 1903, states that a few years back it received a communication from a highly-placed Military Officer in Russia subscribing to two copies of the *Akhbar*, one to be posted to Tashkand and the other to Ishkabad. The Editor wondered what Russian Military Officers should want the *Akhbar-i-'Am* for, but an article in the *Pioneer* of the 10th December has solved the riddle. It would appear that for some years Russian Military Officers have been receiving regular instruction in Hindustani, and that in addition to text-books they are required to read Urdu newspapers. The Editor then publishes the substance of the *Pioneer* article referred to.

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th and 25th December 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 11th December 1903 ...	1,456	1	11
Small subscriptions	634	5	0
Total ...	2,090	6	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	12,198	9	8
Grand Total ...	14,289	0	7

The same.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th, 25th and 28th December 1903, and the 1st January 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15,327	6	9
Small subscriptions	91	4	0
Total ...	15,418	10	9

III.—Native States.

Lord Curzon and Native Chiefs.

6. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th December 1903, says that in his speech at Bahawalpur Lord Curzon observed that there should be a limit to the personal expenses of Native Chiefs, while at Ulwar His Excellency made some remarks about the age at which the said Chiefs should be installed. It would appear from the above that in future no regard is to be paid to a Chief's hereditary rights or his age, and that his installation will depend solely on the will of Government. The Editor adds that it would

not be unfair to blame Government for the defective education now imparted to Indian Princes, seeing that it has made no satisfactory arrangements to train them after the manner of English Princes. He also takes exception to the Viceroy's remarks regarding the personal expenditure of the rulers of Feudatory States, and says that His Excellency's suggestion is calculated to reduce Native Chiefs to the condition of mere stipendiaries.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—*Judicial.*

The Tilak case.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th January 1904, writes as follows:—

"A Poona telegram states that the decision of the Sessions Judge, Mr. Lucas, on the Tilak case was received with dead silence by the large gathering which crowded the court, and that the people retired with a heavy heart. Mr. Tilak received the sentence with remarkable composure of mind. Even the Judge could not help expressing himself in favour of the accused. He is said to have remarked that Mr. Tilak's motives were honest, and that he acted all along with the intention of benefiting the estate of which he was one of the trustees. Well, if criminal intent is the essential thing to make an offence punishable under the criminal law, and if such an intent was absent in the case of Mr. Tilak, why should the sentence, though reduced, be still so severe? Judging from the moral standpoint, the offence was purely a technical one, and if any punishment was necessary, a nominal fine would be regarded by sane and honest people who do not understand the intricacies of law as sufficient to meet the ends of justice. Six months' rigorous imprisonment and one thousand rupees fine for committing some technical irregularity with no object of benefiting himself, but *in the interests of the estate* which he held in trust! And who does not know what a selfless and noble character Mr. Tilak is endowed with? Has not such a character any extenuating effect in the eye of the law, and is one of the best of men to be placed on the same footing with the commonest felon for a trivial and perhaps unavoidable slip, if there was any? Who shall believe after this that the law always represents justice in the true sense of the term, or that its administration invariably makes for the public good? A murderer is given the benefit of the doubt and allowed to go scot-free; cannot honest motives stand in good stead an admittedly good man in the case of a technical offence? It is to be earnestly hoped that the Bombay High Court, where a petition for revision has been filed, will take a really judicial, if not humane, view of the case."

(b)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Mulkowal Plague Inoculation accident of November 1902.

8. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 7th January 1904, writes as follows:—

"Every step which the Government has taken in connection with the Mulkowal inoculation disaster has only helped to deepen the mystery which surrounds it and thus to strengthen popular fears. The holding of the Jenkins Commission of enquiry within closed doors was the first of these steps, and non-publication of the report of the Commission, although the demand for it has been universal throughout the country, has only confirmed the suspicion of something being very wrong that this manner of conducting the enquiry created. The third step just taken by the Government is hardly more felicitous. Over the signature of Mr. Kettlewell, Judical and General Secretary to the Punjab Government, a certificate has been forwarded to Dr. Elliot, the gentleman who inoculated the victims of the disaster, and who appears to be now in Bombay, exonerating him from all blame in connection with it. The certificate is given on the authority of the Government of India, and Dr. Elliot is permitted to make what use he may think of it, with a view to remove any disadvantage to himself. No one need complain of this clearance given to the medical gentleman, who was evidently more unfortunate than in

fault, but it serves only to narrow the circle of responsibility for the disaster, and bring it nearer to the party or parties actually in fault. For the question that will at once come to everybody's lips is—'If the Doctor was not to blame, who then was responsible for the 19 deaths following from anti-plague inoculation at Mulkowal in November 1902?' It was either the serum maker or those who handled it so as to spoil it. Whatever the case may be, the Government's silence over the matter serves to lower rather than enhance the prestige of inoculation in the eyes of the public. From writings that have appeared in the *Times of India* from time to time it seems that the people of the Laboratory at Parel are willing to have further light thrown on the matter rather than to dread it, so that no suspicion may attach to their processes. Why then should the Government remain silent? The fact cannot be concealed that some one was to blame, and whoever it was the responsibility must in the end rest with the Government, under whose authority and by whose agency the inoculation operations were carried out. The Government cannot do worse than suppress the mistake wherever it occurred, for such suppression would shake confidence even in the honesty of its proceedings, not to speak of the value of anti-plague inoculation in the minds of the people."

Treatment of the people by Anglo-Indians.

9. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 21st and 24th December 1903, reports that recently he was introduced to an Englishman on a pleasure visit to this country. In the course of the conversation which ensued he enquired of the Englishman what he thought of the Native of India. In reply the gentleman from London stated that, although Natives could boast of many virtues, they had little or no idea of self-respect, and that it was for this reason that Englishmen did not consider them worthy of their friendship. He added that his countrymen could make friends with him alone who would return contempt for contempt and strike back when struck, and that their friendship could not be secured by humility or flattery. The writer, however, does not desire all Natives to become acquainted with this trait of British character, and would request Anglo-Indians to fix upon some other means whereby to judge of a man's fitness for their friendship.

A suggestion to give Native soldiers an increase of pay.

10. A correspondnt writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th December 1903, remarks that Jack Sepoy is not only the bulwark of British rule in India, but has also upheld the honour of the Union Jack in every quarter of the globe. His devoted loyalty to the British throne and unflinching courage on the field of battle have passed into a proverb and excite the envy of more than one European power. It is, however, to be regretted that he should be no better off than he was in the time of Clive. Lord Curzon should interest himself in the matter and give Native soldiers an increase of pay, especially since the concession has been made in favour of their British comrades.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—18-1-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 16th January 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—Foreign.

Ill-treatment of Indians in the Transvaal.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th January 1904, reports that on New Year's Day Indian traders in the Transvaal were removed to "locations" specially prepared for their residence. The reason assigned for treating them in this manner is that they hold no (trading) licenses from the Boer Government! It must, however, never be forgotten that during the Kruger *régime* the Indians in question were free to engage in trade. The Editor adds that at the commencement of the Boer War it was declared by Lord Lansdowne that one of the objects with which the war had been undertaken was to improve the position of Indian immigrants in the Transvaal. Now, however, a flimsy pretext is being taken advantage of to compel the self-same immigrants to reside in "locations" outside towns. Here is the culminating point of selfishness!

Alleged interception by the British Authorities of Urdu newspapers posted to Turkey.

2. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 2nd January 1904, writes as follows:—

"The Turkish newspaper *Almoyod* of Constantinople is responsible for a sensational statement, boldly made, casting unworthy reflections on the British authorities controlling postal communication between Turkey and India. Our contemporary complains that he has not been having for some time any exchange with Indian Urdu papers because the British Post Office in Constantinople have taken to destroying all Urdu papers coming from India! The statement may lead to various suggestions all of them reflecting on the sense of duty of the Indian authorities, for the British Postal authorities in Constantinople cannot be supposed to attempt such an unparalleled departure from rule on their own initiative. But this is by the way, for such statements cannot at any rate be believed. The local *Paisa Akhbar*, it however appears, made enquiries in the Sea Post Office of Bombay as to the fate of its copies which were regularly posted, and has learnt that they were as regularly despatched to Turkey. This makes the confusion worse confounded. We think the Government of India ought to enquire into the cause or causes which have led this Constantinople paper to hazard a statement which is liable to be misunderstood in Moslem India."

The same.

3. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th January 1904, reprints the above, and asks Government to make thorough inquiries into the matter in order to reassure the public.

4. One Nadir Ali, a Vakil at Meerut, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar*, (Lahore), of the 6th January 1904, endeavours to refute the charge of practising oppression on pilgrims brought against the Sharif of Mecca in a communication published in the above paper of the 11th November last (*vide* paragraph 4 of Selections No. 47 of 1903). The Editor, however, does not set much store by the contradiction, and remarks that the writer of the communication in dispute has been residing in Mecca for the last 25 years and that the latter is not alone in holding about the Sharif the views he does. Besides, several respectable Indian Muhammadans, who have been to the sacred city, support the allegations made. The Indian readers of Arabic newspapers are, moreover, fully aware that not a few Egyptian papers have published endless complaints against the Sharif of Mecca. In conclusion, the Editor asks Maulvi Nadir Ali to explain why Indian newspapers are not allowed to be circulated in Mecca, and alleges that the same are taken delivery of by the local authorities with a view to being destroyed. He can divulge to the Maulvi the name of the person who has given him this information.

Complaint against the Sharif of Mecca.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th and 11th January 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	...	15,418	10	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	50	12	0
Total	...	15,469	6	9

(b)—Home.

6. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 12th January 1904, remarks that in its leading article in its issue of the 8th instant the *Civil and Military Gazette* examines the Congress demand regarding the throwing open of higher appointments in the Public Service to Natives of ability and learning. The *Civil and Military Gazette* is of opinion that if the demand is granted Englishmen will have to leave this country and British rule in India will come to an end. The writer shares this opinion, and observes that the outcry raised by the Congresswalas can never make Government forget that it has the right to maintain the present rule in India even by use of force, whether the people like it or not. He adds that the Anglo-Indian Daily of Lahore does not conceal the fact that Government can appoint Natives only to those posts in its service the bestowal of which on the children of the soil cannot injure its own interests. This is plain-speaking indeed, and ought to open the eyes of the people.

Natives and higher appointments in the Public Service.

7. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th January 1904, publishes a cartoon which discloses to view a young woman (India) set upon by a number of dogs labelled "Disunion," "Religious bigotry," "Poverty," "Litigation," &c. Three young men, whip in hand, labelled "Native news-

India's foes and friends.

papers," "The Educational Conference" and "The National Congress" are seen going to her rescue. The letter-press is as follows :—

India.—What a state of helplessness I am in! O, God, what should I do?

Punch.—It is to be hoped that the three young men will combine to rescue India from the clutches of her tormentors, thereby proving the truth of the adage "God helps those who help themselves."

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

The Amir's alleged oppression of his Hindu subjects.

8. The *Arya Gasette* (Lahore), of the 7th January 1904, says that the frontier correspondent of the *Punjab Samachar* reports that of late the Amir has, at the instance of certain Mullas, been using force towards his Hindu subjects to make them embrace Islam. As, however, the correspondent represents this to be a mere rumour, the Editor abstains from saying, for the present, anything further on the subject.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Official Secrets Bill.

9. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd January 1904, remarks that apparently the Official Secrets Bill has been introduced with the object of preventing newspapers from publishing what Government would keep secret. The provisions of the Bill are, however, of such a rigorous and objectionable character that even a semi-official paper like the *Pioneer* has had to condemn the proposed law. As regards Native newspapers, they are each and all of them opposed to the measure and will have none of it. And they are in the right. Even now the Press cannot divulge, and is not in a position to divulge, secrets which the authorities would keep intact. The Editor then goes on to say that the passing of the above Bill will have the effect of depriving Indian newspapers of what little liberty was left them by the amended law of sedition. He, however, regrets to have to record that not a few papers in the Punjab have as yet expressed no opinion about the law under consideration. He then suggests that Editors in India should not only condemn the measure, but should submit to Government a joint representation on the subject.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

Government and the construction of canals.

10. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 26th December 1903, remarks that India is an agricultural country, and consequently stands in need of a very large number of canals. It is, however, to be regretted that Government has so far failed to take up the question in the right spirit, with the result that the existing canals in the country can be counted on the fingers of one's hands. Indeed, Government constructs canals, not with a view to benefitting the agriculturists, but with the object of increasing its own income from the land revenue. It may be mentioned here that not a few branches of several canals are never supplied with water, the money spent on their construction representing a dead loss. The authorities should so extend the means of irrigation in the country that every village and hamlet should be in a position to obtain a supply of canal water.

(f)—Railways and Communications.

A complaint against the Railway.

11. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st January 1904, complains that at not a few stations on the North-Western Railway passengers who leave the train at night or fail to catch a night train, but whose homes are at some distance from the stations, are not allowed to pass the night in waiting rooms. They are literally driven away by the Railway officials concerned, and do not know what to do or where to go to. To add to their difficulties, coolies are not available at most of the above stations, particularly after dark. The Manager should enquire into the above and take prompt steps to put an end to the complaint.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The shortcomings of the people.

12. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 28th December 1903, in commenting on Mr. O'Donnell's recent article in the *Star* discussing the causes of famine and plague and examining the principles of taxation followed in India, remarks that if the authorities are in the habit of blaming Providence for their own shortcomings the people are no less prone to shift their sins of omission and commission on to the shoulders of Government. The poverty of the country, the outbreak of the plague, the falling-off in the cultivation of indigo, the cheapening of beet-root sugar by the Germans, the corrupt practices of the Police and the Court *'amla*, &c., are all attributed to Government! The Editor adds that the people forget that the members of the Police Force and the aforesaid *'amla* are their fellow-countrymen, and that to complain against them is tantamount to showing themselves up in their own true colours. He would advise Natives to realize their imperfections and take effective steps to remove their defects.

Government and the plague.

13. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 29th December 1903, says that when the outcry over the plague administration was loudest it ventured to remark that the day was not distant when all restrictions would be abandoned and Government would come to regard plague as no whit more dangerous a disease than cholera, small-pox, &c. And this is what at last has come to pass, Government having now decided to let matters take their course rather than offend the people or alienate their sympathies by adopting rigorous measures. The Editor applauds the decision, and congratulates the authorities on having realised the gravity of the situation.

The plague.

14. One Maulvi Hakim Syad Ghulam Hasain, of Benares, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th January 1904, condemns the methods of treating plague patients in vogue among European doctors, and insinuates that quarantine camps, the disinfection of houses, anti-plague inoculation, &c., have all failed to stamp out the disease. He is also at a loss to understand how the aforesaid doctors can foretell when plague is likely to appear in a certain locality, and complains that the doings of these gentlemen in connection with the visitation in question interfere with the smooth working of the administrative machine and lead to the people being involved in trouble and ruin. He would place all plague patients under the treatment of Native physicians, and has no doubt that this will lead to far more satisfactory results.

Redistribution of Districts in Bengal and elsewhere.

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th January 1904, writes as follows :—

"A more systematic, sincere, and well-organised agitation than is being carried on in the threatened districts of East Bengal against the proposed redistribution of territory has seldom been witnessed in India. Seeing that the contemplated change will benefit none while it will create no end of confusion, and that it will be nothing less than an outrage on the deep-rooted sentiments of millions of His Majesty's Bengali and Madrasi subjects, one can hardly believe that it will ever be carried into effect. But the strange heedlessness of our rulers to public opinion and popular feeling on not a few occasions during the last few years causes serious anxiety to the vast population concerned. In the Punjab all classes of the Native community were opposed to the severance of Dera Ismail Khan and other equally advanced tracts from the Province. Government, however, did not care a two-pence for Punjab public opinion. And ask any intelligent Derawall, and he will tell you that, if he could, he would have left his native place and emigrated to a portion of the country where law was something real and not a mere name as in the Frontier Province. We, indeed, have heard of instances in which educated and self-respecting persons have shown their appreciation of *personal rule*—which is held to be the chief beauty of Frontier administration—by removing to cis-Indus localities. To people accustomed to a more advanced form of government, the change to a practically patriarchal system of rule is very painful, and this very nearly is the fate which threatens East Bengal, the nursery and home of Bengali culture."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—26-1-04—70.

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I.—POLITICS.

(a).—Foreign.

Asiatics in South Africa.

1. In an article headed "Inhumane, Unjust and Diabolical," the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st January 1904, writes as follows :—

"Before the Boer War the British Government designated the law of the Transvaal Republic assigning locations to the Indian population settled there as 'inhumane, unjust and diabolical.' But the war over, the British Government themselves have taken to enforcing that law much more severely than the Boer Government was ever permitted to do. What has briefly been called the Asiatic Bazar Notice has been issued, by which our loyal, industrious and peaceful countrymen in the Transvaal are required to leave the townships and reside and trade in what were formerly called locations, and are now euphemistically designated 'bazars,' at some distance from the business centres. The then British Government went so far as to urge on Mr. Kruger's Government that the promulgation of such a law was a serious breach of the London Convention and therefore a *casus belli*. We are told that this point was so far pressed home by the Imperial Government that the law practically became a dead-letter and British Indians resident in the Transvaal were virtually allowed their full privileges as British subjects in their alien home. But now that there is no Kruger Government, and the British Government have it in their power to give practical proof of their own solicitude for the welfare of their most loyal Indian subjects, what is it that they have done? They have revived the barbarous law against which they once vehemently protested, and are administering it in such a way that the victims of the law would seem to be feeling that the thick loins of Mr. Kruger were more endurable than the little finger of Lord Milner. Yes, we do not exaggerate. Let any one who reads the following 'Sanitary Report upon the site marked out for an Asiatic Bazar, Klerksdorp,' say if we have exaggerated in applying the terms 'inhumane, unjust and diabolical' to the present state and administration of the law :—'I (the District Surgeon) proceeded to the site marked out for an Asiatic Bazar near Plenaarsdorp, Klerksdorp, to-day, and made an examination of the surroundings. The Western or South-Western front of the plot marked out is arranged in the form of a series of steps so placed that even after a moderate rainfall a large part will be under water, some portions even to the extent of from one to two feet. In my opinion the site as at present marked out is to be condemned from a sanitary point of view. (Signed) R. T. Jupp, M. B., B. S., Klerksdorp, October 15th, 1903.' The British Indian Association of Johannesburg, the Indian residents of Klerksdorp, as well as a monster public meeting held at the former place, emphatically protested against the compulsory removal of Indians to locations, but it will be too much to say that their protest will be heeded by an administration—we refer to the Balfour Government—which has made itself the creature of Lord Milner in all matters affecting South Africa. This Lord Milner, whose whole treatment of the Indian question has simply been reprehensible, is, in his turn, the creature of the Rand Magnates, who are too selfish to allow considerations of justice to influence their judgment in this matter."

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th January 1903, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjas Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 8th January 1903 ...	2,218	5	11
Small subscriptions	17	0	0
Total ...	2,235	5	11
Adds amount remitted to Turkey ...	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL ...	14,433	15	7

(b)—Home.

3. In an article headed " The Gloom on the Brow " the *Tribune* (Lahore) of the 19th January 1904, writes as follows :—

The condition of India.

" It is doubtful if the resistless sweep of time, in which years and centuries are lost like hours and minutes, will be able to wipe out the impression of the mournful period through which India has been passing for the last several years, and the end of which is yet to be seen. It is an unfinished record of famine, pestilence, storm and flood, earthquake and tornado, riot and assault in their most intensified forms. Death has ceased to go about with muffled tread, in the silence of the night, and beneath that arch of unmoved and eternal lights, when the shadows of the night are broad and black. It knocks at the door in broad daylight, and has been carrying its victims by hundreds of thousands from year's end to year's end with unceasing activity and hydra-headed pertinacity. Death from famine, pestilence, grinding poverty, and storm and flood, and earthquake and tornado, of unparalleled severity and magnitude ; death from wild beasts ; death from mysterious landships ; and from the more mysterious going off of the gun of its own accord, and from the most mysterious optical confusion in the matter of distinguishing a sickly peasant from a full-sized bear ; death from the smartness of the Police ; and the last, if not by far the least, from the well-continued and *continually whipped up* enthusiasm of the 'convicting' Judge ! The ever-growing poverty which is eating into the vitals of the population ; the all-powerful pestilence which defies the Marhatta sabre at the fag-end of the Mughal dynasty in its irresistible omnipresence and unconquerable omnipotence ; the progressive combination of the Police and the 'convicting' Judge and the consequent over-crowding of the jails and over-straining of the gallows ; and the last, if not the least, the unusual prevalence of lawlessness in many of the prominent districts of the country, punctuated by frequent violent convulsions of Nature—all these potent elements of dire discouragement and dismay, headed by the retrograde tendencies of the powers that be, combine to make a situation which can hardly be expected to provide a suffering people with a particularly optimistic mood. Hence the deplorable signs of a growing pessimism all over the country. But there never was a stronger need of a sturdy stand by the gun, and we must naturally welcome those who have a message of courage and manliness to give at this juncture and not a doleful gospel of vanishing virility and vanquished hope. An article in the current number of *East and West* carries such a message of hope and courage from a European observer of the situation, and therefore the more welcome."

[Extracts are then made from the article referred to, which is by Mr. G. D. M. Buch.]

4. The *Public Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 16th January 1904, observes that it was very necessary that some movement like the National Congress should be started in India. The objections, adds the Editor, raised against the Congress during its infancy are one by one being proved to be wholly unfounded. It is not true that that body is hostile to Government or that Musalmans do not take part in its deliberations. The Editor further remarks that the day is not distant when the National Congress will be looked upon as a faithful interpreter between Government and the people.

The National Congress.

III.—Native States.

5. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* remarks that the Rulers of Native States being under the protection of the British Government, their position is perfectly secure, so much so that the disbanding of the troops now maintained by them could work them no injury. It is to be regretted, therefore, that when invested with powers of government the said Princes should pay no thought to affairs of State and should relegate their powers to incompetent and inexperienced officials. Native Chiefs should shake off their lethargy and open their eyes to the fact that officials of the above type are the worst enemies of both their masters and the subjects of Feudatory States. It was they who brought about the downfall of Rana Zalim Singh of Jhalawar, although the latter's subjects were thoroughly devoted to him and asked to be put to the sword rather than be separated from their Prince. The Editor then goes on to say that the State officials in Jeypur are pursuing a policy calculated to lead to undesirable consequences, and regrets that the Maharaja should have no knowledge of this. He concludes by promising to resume his remarks at some future time.

Native Chiefs' indifference to affairs of State.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th January 1904, remarks that the interests of the country imperatively demand that Hindus and Muhammadans should unite and live like friends. The leading Hindu newspapers and gentlemen in Bengal have begun to acknowledge and lay stress on the fact that during the Muhammadan rule their co-religionists received better treatment than is accorded to them under the present *régime*. They were then appointed to such posts of trust and honour as are beyond their reach now; while their Musalman conquerors, far from looking down upon them, always tried to live on friendly terms with them. The *Qaumi Rafiq* has published an article to substantiate this, and the Editor has no hesitation in subscribing to every word in it. After quoting extracts from the article he observes that there is no reason why friendly relations between the Hindus and Muhammadans should not continue. He is of opinion that both being subjects of the same Government and having common rights, they should unite in order to better their lot.

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

VI.—Legislation.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th January 1904, regrets that Urdu newspapers have so far published no criticism on the Universities Bill. The proposed law, adds the Editor, appertains

The Universities Bill.

to a question calculated to affect coming generations of Natives. Government, he alleges, wishes to discourage higher education, which it considers injurious to its interests, and to decrease the number of "discontented B. As." On the other hand, the public would have imperfect education rather than no education at all, but no one listens to them. After publishing the substance of the Bill, the Editor remarks that in case the proposed measure becomes law the people should take the work of education into their own hands, keeping no connection with the Universities. Should this be impracticable, gentlemen giving money for private colleges should do so on the condition that the interest therefrom should be utilised for giving scholarships to poor but deserving students.

VII.—General Administration.

Miscellaneous.

The appointment of Mr. Gokhale to a Companionship of the Indian Empire.

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th January 1904, remarks that the Hon'ble Mr. Gokhale is one of those well-wishers of India who are noted for adversely criticising certain Government measures. His recent decoration with the title of C. I. E. therefore bears witness to Government's high-mindedness, and shows that the authorities are not slow to appreciate merit. It is, however, to be regretted that certain narrow-minded persons are of opinion that Lord Curzon has conferred the title on Mr. Gokhale with the sole object of tying the Mahratta gentleman's tongue. The Editor does not share this opinion, and says that it is a mistake to impute such unworthy motives to the present Viceroy.

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Nil.	

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 4.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 30th January 1904.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. A correspondent, writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 20th January 1904, remarks that there can be no truth in the rumour that some Russian troops also have arrived in Tibet. Equally unfounded must be the allegation that, according to the Chinese Resident in Tibet, the Russians are erecting two posts in a certain part of the country named. The writer is of opinion that in all probability the Tibetans, who are sincerely sorry for their past conduct and wish to make their peace with the Government of India, are setting afloat such rumours in the hope that these may perhaps induce Government to recall the Mission recently sent to Tibet. This is, however, another mistake on their part, and they are likely to discover soon that they are reckoning without their host, and that Government is no way afraid of Russia.

Russia and Japan.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd January 1904, observes that although natives have no hand in shaping the foreign policy of Government, it is gratifying to see that they are sufficiently advanced to form an opinion on political matters. The threatened war between Russia and Japan is being discussed by them with great interest and, as was but natural, their sympathies are with the latter. The Editor says that it is impossible to contemplate with equanimity the downfall of the Japanese. Russia has sinister designs against India, and this compels Government to spend large sums of money on the defence of the frontier, as also to subsidise the Amir. Natives will, therefore, be only too glad to see a Power humiliated which indirectly imposes on the country an expenditure of lakhs of rupees. Such an eventuality will specially please Musalmans, seeing that Russia is an inveterate enemy of Turkey and the Sultan. The Editor concludes by remarking that the British Government appears to be well-disposed towards its ally in the far East.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 25th January 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15,469	6	9
Small subscriptions	24	1	0
Total ...	*15,493	7	9

* Of this Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Constantinople.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd January 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 15th January 1904...	2,235	5	11
Small subscriptions	41	12	0
Total ...	2,277	1	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL ...	14,475	11	7

VI.—LEGISLATION.

5. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th January 1904, remarks that, thanks to Government, Native Newspapers are already thoroughly muzzled. The existing laws of libel and sedition, as well as Section 292 of the Indian Penal Code, hang like the sword of Damocles over the head of the Native Press. The Editor regrets that a liberal and enlightened Government like the British should pass rigorous laws against a useful institution like the Press. He then requests Lord Curzon to prevent the Official Secrets Bill passing into law, adding that otherwise His Excellency will be ringing the death knell of Native Newspapers, and making the Government of India appear small in the eyes of Foreign Powers.

The Official Secrets Bill.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—5-2-04—70.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 5.]

SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 6th February 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1904, remarks that it is quite on the cards that the Tibetans will not let the English enter their capital without fighting. Indeed it is reported that a few days ago the officers with the Tibet Mission were given to understand that if they proceeded further than Thona, armed resistance would be offered them. The report has no doubt been officially contradicted, but it should never be forgotten that there can be no smoke without fire. After remarking that the British advance against Tibet has greatly offended the Grand Lama, the Editor observes that the Tibetans are certain to make trouble.

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 5th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount in hand on the 29th January 1904	...	2,308	1	11
Small subscriptions		34	9	6
Total	...	2,342	11	5
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	...	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL	...	14,541	5	1

The same.

3. A correspondent writing to the same paper reports that on the day of the last Id-ul-Fitar the Nawab of Dir gave Rs. 10,000 for the Hedjaz Railway and sent the amount to the Turkish Consul at Bombay through a trustworthy person. The last named, however, paid only Rs. 5,000 to the Consul and forged a receipt for the full amount. The Nawab having been

apprised of this, he sent two other men to Bombay to enquire into the matter. The latter learned from the Consul that only Rs. 5,090 had been paid to him ; and since then the man through whom the subscription was sent to the Consul has not been heard of. The Editor requests the subscribers to the *Watan* in Bombay to make enquiries into the matter and communicate the result to him.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Natives and emigration.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd February 1904, says that seven or eight years back it published a series of articles discussing the question "Where should Natives emigrate to?," and advising the surplus population of the country to try their luck in foreign lands. It did not, however, know at the time that the day was not distant when Natives would not be allowed to settle in other countries, particularly in British possessions. Nevertheless, it would advise Indian youths to emigrate to America, Australia, Africa and other parts of the world, always keeping a warm place for India in their hearts. The Editor then endeavours to show that his fellow-countrymen are by no means averse to emigration, and requests Government to issue a pamphlet showing how they could earn their bread in foreign lands.

Muhammadans and the National Congress.

5. One Alif Din, a Pleader, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th January 1904, remarks that Mr. Justice Teybji's views about the National Congress, as expressed in his inaugural address at the last Session of the Muhammadan Educational Conference, are not shared by his co-religionists in the country. The correspondent adds that Hindus and Musalmans stand apart, and that the gulf is being widened by denominational schools and colleges and religious societies. Again, social intercourse between the two communities being out of the question, it is utterly impossible for them to work hand-in-hand in political matters. The late Sir Syad Ahmad Khan's decision, therefore, that their participation in the Congress could never benefit Muhammdans as a community must be accepted as final and irrevocable.

India during 1903.

6. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th January 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that from a political point of view the year 1903 may be compared to a theatre. Its commencement witnessed a grand show, called the Coronation Darbar, at Delhi, in which political acrobats from far and near took part and exhibited their performances. The show was not, however, to the liking of the common people ; and if even half the enormous sum of money spent on it had been utilised for affording relief to the famine-stricken and the needy, Government would have gained far more in popularity. The *tamasha* rendered Native States destitute, while, thanks to Political Agents, their costly and artistic furniture was sold by auction for a mere trifle. To make matters worse, the things thus disposed of were replaced by fresh purchases made from European merchants through the Agents, both of whom made a considerable amount of money out of the transactions. The writer further remarks that at the Darbar Lord Curzon greatly extended his personal influence, and displayed a splendour of which

his forefathers had not so much as dreamt. After observing that the money wasted on the show ought to have been spent in the manner pointed out above, he says that in that case the Viceroy could not have impressed the people with a sense of his greatness. Nor could Government have made crores of rupees from Railway traffic, while English merchants would not have realised the enormous profits they were fortunate enough to make. The correspondent then goes on to say that the year under review did not prove an auspicious one for Tibet, to invade which the selfish English made use of diverse pretexts. He adds that 1903 strengthened Russian influence in the Persian Gulf, and that Lord Curzon's visit to that part of the world was, as a counter-move, an utter failure. After ascribing Turkey's difficulties in Macedonia and the Balkans to the machinations of Russia and the cunning of England, he observes that India also suffered great misfortune during the past year,—"an ordinary thing for those who have no one to look after them." Her days are numbered and she has been reduced to a mere skeleton ; but strangely enough death does not come to her relief. She cannot find the wherewithal to appease her hunger and has to see her children die from famine and disease by the hundred, the rest being sacrificed to the whims of doctors. Again, her worldly possessions are being looted by Europeans, and she lost a great deal in this way during the year in question. The writer next observes that Maharaja Holkar was forcibly deposed in 1903, while His Highness the Nizam was made to give up the Berars. As to that paradise on earth, the Happy Valley, "the news that the English were to enter it made it hide under water through very shame". The Maharaja of Alwar and the Nawab of Bahawalpur were installed and invested with powers of government, but, as a set off to this, several Native Chiefs were deposed; while the two Princes named had to spend so much on the entertainment of guests, display of fireworks and preparation of camps, &c., that it will be impossible for them to make up the deficiency for years to come. A certain Raja in Assam was subjected to such gross humiliation as does not befall even the meanest of His Majesty's subjects in India. Another Chief, *viz.*, the Raja of Kathiawar, fell a victim to the powers that be, and his fate excites the keenest sorrow in the writer's heart. In the Punjab a certain Prince (the reference is to the Raja of Bilaspur) was turned out of his State, and the Local Government would not so much as forward his appeal to the Government of India. After referring to Bhartpur affairs and remarking that Government seems bent on passing the Official Secrets Bill into law, the correspondent says that during the year under review Lord Curzon was thoroughly successful in his political machinations, which bodes this country ill. And if His Lordship stays here for another two years death will be certain to overtake old India.

British rule in India.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1904, refers to the policy of the British Government in India, and says that the present *regime* is calculated to prove beneficial to this country.

The Imperial Cadet Corps.

8. The *Paisa Akbhar* (Lahore), of the 1st February 1904, remarks that it is difficult to say what prospects are open to the members of the Imperial Cadet Corps organised by Lord Curzon. The expectation that they will receive direct commissions in the army is, the Editor can vouch from

his personal knowledge, likely to prove an illusion, for an English Lieutenant even of the lowest grade will never consent to being placed on a footing of equality with Natives. It is true that members of the Corps could, and most probably will, be selected to officer the Imperial Service Troops; but the question is whether a sufficient number of posts are available for all of them. The Editor concludes by calling upon Lord Curzon, the originator of the scheme, to settle the question before vacating the office of Viceroy.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The administration of justice in India.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th February 1904, writes:—

"The Government of Lord Curzon is pre-eminently one of manifestoes and declarations. Never in the previous history of British India has the Government laid itself so often open before the public for the explanation of its objects and motives or the declaration of its policy and principles. One reason of this is, of course, that few Governments have raised so many important and contentious questions as Lord Curzon's administration has done, and His Excellency has therefore exposed himself to criticism and misapprehensions which have called for explanations on his behalf. But another reason which is more satisfactory to contemplate is that Lord Curzon's Government has initiated a new policy of taking the people into greater confidence than heretofore, and of responding to public opinion whenever occasion requires. One such occasion has been presented to it by the heated co[illegible]versy on the question of assaults by Europeans upon Natives which occupied so much public attention lately, and which led the non-official European community to submit a memorial taking exception to the Government's policy and action in the matter. The Government's reply to this memorial is just published, and it is a document as interesting to read as it may be hoped to be convincing in its effects."

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Visit by the Governor of Ceylon to Anuradhapur.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th February 1904, writes:—

"How we wish the excellent example set by Sir Henry Blake, the new Governor of Ceylon, had been followed by our rulers in India! Hearing that compulsion was being exercised with regard to arranging decorations for his reception at Anuradhapur, His Excellency promptly issued a circular forbidding in future any attempt to compel payment of any money by any person unwilling to subscribe for the purpose of preparing decorations. 'The essence of such evidences of gratification at the visit of a Governor,' says His Excellency, 'is spontaneity, without which they are valueless, and while I am always glad to meet with the people and accept with pleasure any evidence that they may give of a loyal respect for His Majesty's representative, I desire that such evidence shall be the free expression of the feeling of the community.' His Excellency also adds that all provisions supplied while on tour will be paid for by a member of his staff."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—12-2-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 13th February 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1904, says that Mr. Brodrick has announced that the cost of the Tibet Expedition, the despatch whereof was no way necessitated by the present condition of India, is to be charged to Indian Revenues. At the time of his appointment to succeed Lord George Hamilton the well-wishers of the country felt afraid that a minister who could put forward a proposal to saddle India with a part of the cost of the British Garrison in South Africa could not be expected to do justice to her. And their fears, they are beginning to find, were only too well-founded. The Editor adds that Mr. Brodrick's assertion that the object of the Tibet Mission is not annexation is unlikely to stand the test of time. He then asks if there is no just-minded Briton to protest against the decision of the Secretary of State for India regarding the cost of the Mission.

The Hedjas Railway.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	15,493	7	9
Small subscriptions	71	6	0
Total ...	15,564	13	9

(*b*)—*Home.*

Government and the people.

3. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 7th February 1904, after referring to the surprising progress made by Japan during the past few years, enquires whether India also cannot advance at this rate. The question, adds the Editor, can be answered in the affirmative without fear of contradiction, although it is not easy to say why this country *does not* move forward. He

knows that there are several causes for the existing state of affairs, but he will content himself with mentioning only two of them. Of these one constitutes a charge against the people and the other a reflection on the Government. Without co-operation between Government and the people this country can make no progress worthy the name. The indifference displayed by the Native public in the matter is decried every now and then both in the press and from the platform; but a fear of the law prevents a thorough discussion of the indifference on the part of Government. It should, however, be the duty of every one desirous of the permanence of British rule in India to lay bare all the defects to be found in the present system of government; and the Editor makes bold to say that the exisiting system is susceptible of improvement, and that several misunderstandings in connection with the relations between the rulers and the ruled require clearing up. So long as Government fails to look upon the people as its children and withholds its confidence and love from them, and so long as the latter are not devotedly loyal to the former, neither party can perform its duty by the other. From the fact, therefore, that India does not progress like Japan, it is not unreasonable to conclude that things are not as they should be. If the people are not as loyal as they ought to be, they should do their utmost to be so and to convince Government of this. And if they are regarded with distrust by the powers that be, they should demonstrate their loyalty to the latter and ask to be pitied and placed on the road to progress. After remarking that it is impossible to remedy the evil complained of so long as Government does not cooperate with the people, the Editor says that were the former to cease subsidising the Amir as a checkmate to Russia and spend the money on developing the resources of India, the Russians would soon abandon their designs against the country.

The same.

4. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 10th February 1904, remarks that it would be rank ingratitude in Natives to forget the innumerable benefits the enlightened and liberal British Government has conferred on them. They are heartily grateful to their present rulers for the latters' kind treatment of them and have been loyal subjects since the very beginning of British rule in India. It is, however, difficult to say why of late Government has become indifferent to its loyal and devoted Indian subjects and why sympathy for men of its own nationality has made it tread a path different from that formerly pursued by it, witness the way the lives of poor Natives are now taken by Englishmen. But whatever the treatment accorded to them, the people will never swerve in their loyalty to Government and the day will come when the latter will accord equal rights to Natives and Englishmen.

IV.—KINE-KILLING.

The cow-protection movement.

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th February 1904, remarks that the cow-protection movement is calculated to revive Moslem fanaticism which has been lying dormant for many years. The agitation is also meant to inflame the Hindus, and those who are carrying it on do not hesitate to publish inflammatory pamphlets every now and then. Only as recently as October 1893, four Hindu residents of Bombay were prosecuted

on a charge of issuing a pamphlet of the above description. After quoting an extract from this pamphlet, the Editor accuses cow-protectionists of creating difficulties for the administration, engendering feelings of ill-will and hatred for Government, and using language calculated to lower the prestige of the authorities.

VI.—Legislation.

The Universities Bill.

6. One Alif Din, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 8th February 1904, remarks that if the Universities Bill is calculated to injure Hindus it will be certain to strike a death blow to Muhammadans. The rich among the later do not set much store by education, while the poor lack the means of giving their youths even elementary education. As for middle class Musalmans, even the present cost of education is burdensome to them, and the proposed enhancement of college fees will assuredly make it positively insupportable.

The Official Secrets Bill.

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th February 1904, says that the amended Official Secrets Bill has failed to restore confidence and allay misapprehension amongst the public. The amendments introduced have not softened the rigour of the proposed law and leave untouched the arbitrary powers it confers on Government. After quoting extracts from the opinions of the *Englishman*, the *Statesman* and the *Indian Daily News* on the amended Bill, the Editor observes that all leading Native newspapers also regard the measure as a pernicious one. He adds that even if this hateful law is passed now, it will have to be amended sooner or later.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

Cases between Natives and Europeans.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th and 6th February 1904, remarks that very great responsibilities devolve on the Government of India, and that some idea thereof may be formed by pondering over the results of cases between Natives and Europeans. The complaint is general amongst the people that in these cases the balance of justice is deflected to the detriment of Natives; and only recently Government also has had to admit this much. On the other hand, the European community in India has of late been raising a counter-complaint and accusing Government of unduly straining the law to the prejudice of Europeans charged with offences against the persons of Indians. Writings to this effect are to be found in the columns of Anglo-Indian newspapers every now then, but by far the strongest protest on the subject was a memorial which the Bengal Chamber of Commerce submitted to the Government of India some time back, the latter's reply to which was published on the 1st instant. After giving the substance of the above reply, the Editor says that Government has thoroughly succeeded in rebutting the unfounded and mischievous charges preferred against it by the Chamber. He adds that it is his fellow-countrymen who could have complained to the authorities that in cases between Natives and Europeans the former were severely dealt with and could not obtain justice. Strangely enough, however, the European residents

of this country made the selfsame complaint on behalf of men of their own nationality, while the Government of India has in a way admitted that there are reasonable grounds for concluding that generally speaking Natives cannot obtain justice as against Europeans. The Editor then goes on to say that Lord Curzon's efforts to put an end to this state of affairs have struck terror into the hearts of Anglo-Indians. These latter had hitherto been under the impression that there was a very great difference between the price of a European's life and that of a Native's ; but Government has now opened their eyes to the fact that it can never countenance racial distinctions or see millions of Indians, whom Providence has placed under it, subjected to oppression.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Official tours in India.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th February 1904, writes :—

"*Apropos* of Sir Henry Blake's recent circular forbidding any attempt in future to compel the poor Ceylonese to pay for his receptions while on tour, it may not be quite impertinent to allude to the long-felt necessity in India of similar action on the part of her rulers. For the thing here has grown into a scandal which is out of all proportions. The tours of our rulers, from the highest official in the land to the pettiest executive officer, mean additional burdens on the aching shoulders of the poor. Tours of a Governor or a Lieutenant-Governor they can perhaps afford to endure without considerable grumbling, as they do the occasional cholera epidemics, which, with all their terrible and far-reaching consequences, do not come to stay; but the 'tours' of executive officers harass them from year's end to year's end with the tenacity of the plague. Of course, these officers are supposed to pay for their tours *at the expense of the Government*, but it is an open secret that both the Government and the people are equally the losers. If an enquiry were made, say through a Commission, and the people were assured protection against the retaliation of the executive authorities for telling the truth, the Government would be staggered by the terrible magnitude of the scandal. Just imagine a District Magistrate issuing a circular letter to the zemindars within his jurisdiction to the effect that he was to be considered their guest, and that they were to feed not only him but other guests along with him ! Yet Mr. Garrett of Rajshaye, an important district of Bengal, appears to have performed this feat with perfect impunity so far. The feat has both its humourous and gruesome sides; and this amazing combination, as will appear from the following characteristic paragraph of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, has been allowed to develop to a point of unsurpassed intensity in broad daylight :

'He does not say that he and his friends expect to be treated sumptuously, but that of course is understood, considering that the request comes from the Magistrate of the district to a zemindar residing within his jurisdiction. They will have to pitch tents for their guests and provide them with all sorts of comforts and all the necessaries for the sport, horses, and so forth. But Mr. Garrett is willing to bear his share of the burden, that is to say, he will provide all the axes (Kuralees) necessary for cutting down the trees ! They will have of course to maintain a clerk, beautifully suggests Mr. Garrett, but that official will have to obey him and not those who would maintain him. They will have to cut down trees, and why ? Because they generate malaria. How considerate how kind of Mr. Garrett ! So if the zemindars undertake to maintain the pig-sticking, party he will try his best to get rid of wild boars As for the others—the wives and children of Mr. Boar—of course they will not be meddled with by him, for that would be quite unsportsman-like. Besides, if he exterminates the species, how are his successors to find sport in pig-sticking ? It is not stated who is to have the meat, but as neither Hindus nor Mussalmans are fond of pork, Mr. Garrett has certainly no anxiety on that score.'"

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 20th February 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese War.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th February 1904, says that some politicians are of opinion that the Russo-Japanese War bids fair to lead to a sanguinary struggle between the East and the West. The Editor does not share this opinion; and remarks that although the sympathy of all Asiatic States is with Japan, the fact of their being under the influence of European Powers renders their sympathy valueless. Besides, with the exception of France and one or two other of the said Powers, Europe is not favourably disposed towards the Northern Colossus, Germany as well as the United States of America having already declared their neutrality. The Editor concludes by remarking that it is not unlikely that in the long run Great Britain may take up arms on behalf of her ally in the Far East.

Far Eastern Affairs.

2. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 13th February 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that just at present Russia and Japan engross the attention of the whole world. Korea, the bone of contention, is a buffer State set up by China in order to protect herself from foreign aggression. Burma and Tibet were two other such States; but the former was swallowed up by the English, and they have similar designs on Tibet. They trumped up a trade dispute with the last King of Burma, and seized all his money and jewels. Indeed, all European Powers begin with trading in a country and in the end take possession of it, just as Russia has of late been doing in Persia. It was also in this way that the English obtained India; and her children have become so poor that they have not the wherewithal to satisfy their hunger. The writer summarises the chief political events which have taken place in the Far East since 1876, and says that the Korean Civil War of 1894 was the result of the maltreatment of the people by the local authorities—treatment as rigorous as that accorded to the natives of India in these days. After referring to the late China-Japan War, he observes that the struggle led Russia, France and Germany to work against the Land of the Rising Sun; and the present complications in the Far East are the result of this and of dishonest dealings on the part of the Russian Government.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th February 1904, after remarking that Russia seems to be fired with the ambition of founding a world-wide Empire, observes that the Christian Powers of Europe would like to swallow up the vast continents of Asia and Africa. They respect one another's integrity no doubt, but none of them hesitate to do their utmost to overthrow non-Christian kingdoms and secure their own share of the booty. India was conquered by Great Britian, and Russia has annexed 19 districts of Persia, while several Turkish provinces, islands and military stations have been taken possession of by the above powers, Germany, Austria and France. Again, the last-named has swallowed up Algeria and Tunis, and now hungers for Morocco. Egypt is a British possession to all intents and purposes, while the fate which has overtaken the Soudan is known to the whole world. The Editor then goes on to say that the dogs of war have been straining at their leashes on two different sides of Asia,—one where Russia intends invading India, and the other where she is trying to enter China. Her military activity in the latter direction has now led to a war between herself and Japan. It is, however, to be feared that the struggle is not likely to confine itself to the present belligerents, and may cause a universal conflagration. The Editor adds that if Japan is worsted in the fight, her progress will be arrested and she will have to pay a heavy war indemnity, thereby burdening herself with an immense debt. But even if she comes out with flying colours she will still have incurred vast debts for she will get nothing out of her antagonist. The larger part of her debts will be raised from her sincere ally, England, who will pat her on the back in case she proves victorious. Should, however, the fortunes of war go against her, England will sympathise with her and congratulate the Czar on his success. In other words, by remaining friendly to both combatants, Great Britain can achieve results which Russia, whether she wins or loses, cannot do. The deep policy followed by the British Government is therefore to be preferred to the storm which Russia has raised in the Far East.

England and Russia in the Far East.

4. The *Trib une* (Lahore), of the 16th February 1904, in an article under the heading of "The Cost of the Tibetan Raid" writes as follows :—

The Tibet Mission.

"Mr. Brod rick's statement in the House of Commons that the entire cost of the Tibetan raid will be borne by India has not come upon us as a surprise. If the cost were charged not to the Indian but the English Exchequer, the expedition would not have been so hastily undertaken, and a 'peaceful political mission' converted into an undisguised Military expedition. There is a special provision in the 'Act for the Better Government of India' that the Indian army should not be employed and Indian money should not be spent beyond the statutory limits of India without the special permission of Parliament. Sir Charles Dilke in and Sir Henry Cotton outside Parliament have called prominent attention to this provision, but Mr. Brodrick brushed aside the objection, apparently when questioned on the subject in the House of Commons, by saying that the object of the Tibetan move was not military but political. This is a mere quibbling in wor ds, a disingenuous attempt to mislead the ill-informed and the unwary. It may be that the Gove rnment of India do not at present intend to annex Tibet in case victory will attend their arms; but let us not forget that Mr. Balfour, who is now in office if not in power, laid down the dictum, in connection with the permanent occupation of Chitral notwithstanding express pledges to the contrary, that where a British soldier set foot there he must remain. In connection with the late South Africa war the late

Lord Salisbury first said that England sought no gold fields and no territory, but later he swallowed this statement and said that no shred of independence would remain to the Transvaal or the Orange Free State. The declarations of statesmen, or politicans if you please, on such matters have accordingly to be accepted with a good deal of reserve. But apart from the question of possible or probable annexation of Tibet, is it laid down anywhere on competent authority that an expedition is not military but partakes of some other character so long as bodily annexation of the territory of the vanquished foe does not follow conquest? In the present instance, a soldier of reputation with a respectable body of troops and other appurtenances of a military expedition has been despatched beyond the borders of the Empire, and has secured for his charge what is believed to be a safe and certain lodgment in foreign territory. From there he has renewed negotiations which are not freely participated in by the other party, and Colonel Younghusband, who gives evidence of being a rudely aggressive officer, will by military coercion seek to compel the Tibetans to acquiesce in any terms he may under authority choose to give them. If the Tibetans will refuse to abide by them he will of course insist on knowing the reason why. In other words he will make the consequences of victory felt in the extreme and proclaim Tibet to be a dependency of England. It is clear as noonday sun that the Tibetan transaction will take this course. And yet simple Mr. Brodrick, hoping to delude the semi-informed and too credulous English world, has the ingeniousness to say that Colonel Younghusband has been despatched to Tibet on a peaceful political mission and not as the head of a military expedition! The trick is too transparent to tell in any informed quarter, albeit identical language was put in the mouth of the King in the speech from the Throne. It has already been sufficiently discounted and exposed in this country, and thanks to the persistent energy of men like Sir Charles Dilke and Sir Henry Cotton, we hope British public opinion will also be adequately enlightened and informed to take it at its proper worth. * * * *

"We narrate these facts not with a view to defend England—far stronger evidence of the necessity of this expedition will be necessary before we can make bold to cease to dispute the morality of the transaction, and we are all but certain this evidence cannot be had—but to show that in any case England and not India, or England more than India, is interested in the successful prosecution of the doubtful enterprise. Whether the object of the expedition be the protection of British trade or the maintenance of British prestige or the circumventing of Russian aggression and intrigue, India is not interested in the matter, and there can be no shadow of justice for the mulcting of the Indian tax-payer on its account. Also, we have said enough to satisfy the reader that the move is not a political mission but a military expedition, and consequently the Government of India are acting illegally in spending Indian money on it, without the previous sanction of Parliament. * * * * *"

The Hedjaz Railway.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 5th February 1904 ...	2,342	11	5
Small subscriptions	67	4	0
Total ...	2,409	15	5
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	12,198	9	8
Grand Total ...	14,608	9	1

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Grievances of pilgrims to Mecca.

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th February 1904, publishes a communication from one M. H. A. Mahir, who alleges that pilgrims to Mecca are being subjected to indescribable oppression and cruelties in Arabia. It is a shame, he adds, that Turkey should allow such a state of affairs to exist, and should take no notice of the doings of the Sharif of Mecca. To make matters worse the British Consul at Jedda, although fully cognizant of the evil complained of, takes no steps to afford protection to pilgrims from India. The correspondent requests Government to make a strong representation to the Porte in the matter.

The same.

7. One Aziz-ur-Rahman of Rampore, writing to the same paper from Aden, remarks that it is idle to talk of religious liberty under British rule. In support of this assertion he refers to the restrictions which have been imposed upon pilgrims to Mecca of late years, adding that a little more considerate treatment on the part of the authorities would have left Musalmáns no cause for complaint. He further complains that notifications in connection with the pilgrimage are generally published in English in spite of the fact that the majority of those for whom they are meant are ignorant of that language. In conclusion he deprecates the apathy displayed by the Muhammadan Press in the matter, and refers to the difficulties experienced by him during his stay in the quarantine camp and in procuring the prescribed pass from the Police Office in Bombay.

The same.

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 15th February 1904, also publishes a part of the foregoing letter.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets Bill.

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th February 1904, writes as follows :—

"It is reassuring to learn that the Government of India has given up its intention of passing the Official Secrets Bill until the Viceroy's return from his East Bengal tour, and that further time will be given to the consideration of the measure. It is to be hoped that the consideration will lead to reconsideration on the part of the Government and that the Bill will be ultimately dropped. No measure has in the annals of Indian legislation aroused such universal protest, and the Government that is anxious to preserve its reputation for deference to public opinion would not care to push it further. Although the amendments of the Select Committee go some way to divest the Bill of its most objectionable features, while the adoption of the suggestions contained in the dissenting note added to the Report would still further reduce its power for mischief, the Government has been unable to show satisfactory reasons for the passing of such an unpopular measure in the shape of danger to the State such as is not met by the existing Act. Besides, the Government cannot afford to ignore public opinion in the wholesale manner that would be implied by the passing of the Act without weakening its own position in the long run. Such action would mark it as a despotic Government of the extreme type, and there would be no value in the public opinion which it might on future occasions find it necessary to enlist on its side, seeing that it had so entirely disregarded the same public opinion when it suited its purpose. The safest course for Lord Curzon is to drop the Bill. His reputation for sagacity cannot suffer worse by such

a step than it has already done, while any loss in that direction will be amply made up by the display of deference to public opinion which has spoken in no uncertain voice in this case. It were to be wished in the interests of the advocates as well as the opponents of the Bill that the Hon'ble Native Members who have attached the dissenting note to the Select Committee's Report had to the end maintained their unflinching opposition to the measure, which, notwithstanding every emendation of details, must remain objectionable on grounds of principle."

The same.

10. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 12th February 1904, writing on the Official Secrets Bill, says that the measure has called forth protests from all sections of the population,—a unique spectacle in the history of Indian legislation. This universal opposition led to Lord Curzon declaring in Council a few weeks back that Government would not object to introducing such amendments as might be deemed advisable. The changes made by the Select Committee are, however, of such a trivial character that they do no not touch the real object of the proposed law which is the feature of the measure. The Editor then takes exception to the proposal to being *all* military affairs within the purview of the Bill, and says that it deserves condemnation even from the point of view of a regard for good administration. The Editor says that the amendments made and Sir Arundel Arundel's speech announcing the same have inflamed the Anglo-Indian Press still further, and that the *Pioneer* has gone the length of characterising the proposed law as barbarous and an attempt at Russianising the Statute Book. Indeed, there can be no doubt that if the Bill is passed into law, British rule in India will have been brought down to the level of Russian despotism.

The same.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th February 1904, says that it is difficult to guess how the Viceroy has deluded himself into the belief that the amended Official Secrets Bill has softened the rigour of the proposed law and will be approved of by the public. Even the leading Anglo-Indian newspapers have expressed their disagreement with His Excellency and are of opinion that the measure remains as pernicious as ever. Nevertheless the law is as good as passed, and no one can say whether it will ever be amended.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—26-2-04—70.

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[Confidential.]

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PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 27th February 1904.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 27th February 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 25th February 1904, writes :—

Mr. Chamberlain's Fiscal Policy, and England and her Colonies.

"With reference to the Australian revolt against the Mother Country referred to in a recent issue, it remains to be added that this revolt has been extended to the British goods also, against which a strong barrier is rapidly being formed. This leads to an interesting speculation. Suppose Mr. Chamberlain's Tariff Bill is passed, and the world outside the British Empire retaliates, as it will naturally do, by shutting its door against British goods, in which direction will British manufacturers find a way out for their goods? In the direction of Australia? The idea! Of Canada or South Africa? What guarantee is there that the time will not come when they too will not be impressed with the wisdom of extending their revolt to British goods also? They all are equally imbued with the ambition of becoming self-supporting in every respect, and have been working strenuously, with greater or smaller success in their respective circumstances, to that common end. The only remaining market for British goods in that fateful event is of course India. But British manufacturers cannot surely expect the Government of India to be equal to the impossible task of finding customers for all the goods refused by the world and the British Colonies, simply because the Government of India has elected to devote the lucid intermissions in the distracting routine of its dolorous existence to such dignified acts of gratuitous self-humiliation as acting the honorary agent to Anglo-Indian tea-planters—and also, as has lately transpired, to a certain English dealer in pictures of the King and the Queen!"

2. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th February 1904, writing about the Russo-Japanese War, says that it is an open secret that the struggle will decide the fate of the whole of Asia. Persia, China, Afghanistan and Asiatic Turkey must stand or fall with Japan. In case Japan is worsted in the fight, Asia will pass into the hands of Europeans. On the other hand, if it is Russia who is beaten, new life will be infused into Asia and it will be saved from everlasting ruin. The Editor then goes on to say that Russia had been preparing for war for years past, and that she constructed the Siberian Railway with the sole object of facilitating the transport of troops to the Far East. Nevertheless, the facility with which her antagonist can put a large force into the field is still denied to her. As for the Naval power of the combatants, the Russian fleet is not as up-to-date and well equipped as that of Japan. The Editor further remarks that signs are not wanting to show that when the war is at its height,

The Russo-Japanese War.

the Porte will commence hostilities against Bulgaria; for if condign punishment is not inflicted on the Bulgarians, Macedonia cannot remain a Turkish possession long. And in case Russia is defeated in the Far East, the Turks could, after chastising Bulgaria, march into the Caucasus and "wrest that part of Asia which is inhabited by a fierce tribe of Muhammadans" from the hands of Russia. Indeed, they could not hope for a better opportunity to weaken their inveterate enemy, the Northern Colossus. As for France and England, if Russia shows signs of exhaustion, France must of necessity take part with her against Japan, seeing that her very existence is bound up with that of Russia, and the overthrow of Russian power would be a signal to Germany to swallow up France. And in the event of the French joining forces with the Russians, England will have to stand by Japan, which may lead to the universal conflagration predicted by political seers long ago. After stating that hundreds of Englishmen are hastening to Japan to fight on her side, the Editor brands the Czar as a coward, opposed to war, but weak enough to surrender to the Jingoes around him.

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 19th February 1904, says that when, after a few months' fighting, victory begins to favour one of the combatants, other Powers will, in all probability, hasten to take a hand in the game. Then will commence a war between Japan, England and the United States on the one hand and Russia and France on the other, while complications may lead Italy, Austria and Germany also to join in the fray. And this will be the universal and bloody war which the world has been looking for for centuries past. The Editor then goes on to say that a movement has been set on foot in England and India with the object of collecting money for wounded Japanese soldiers and the dependents on those killed in the war. He feels confident that no Asiatic, who is not dead to all sense of shame, will hesitate to give his mite for the above noble purpose. Indian Muhammadans should feel especially grateful to Japan, for her daring and pluck have helped Turkey out of a serious crisis (in the Balkans) and have made it impossible for a dangerous and astute enemy like Russia to intrigue against British rule for some time to come.

The same.

4. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 22nd February 1904, says that the reasons why the sympathies of Indians are with Japan are threefold. In the first place, she is in the right and has taken up arms merely to defend herself against an aggresive foe. Again, Japan being an ally of the British, it is only natural that every native of India should wish her well. In addition to this, she is an Asiatic Power, and the only one in the whole continent of Asia which has had the pluck to challenge Russia to a fight. The Editor then goes on to say that the safety of the whole of Asia depends on Japan coming successfully out of the struggle; that otherwise she herself, China, Korea, Persia, Seistan and Afghanistan are doomed. A serious reverse to the Russian arms will prove of great benefit to Asia, especially to India, which has now to spend large sums of money in strengthening the frontier, but could then afford to ignore Russia for years to come.

The same.

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 23rd February 1904, says that, according to Reuter's telegrams, it is rumoured at St. Petersburg that General Ivanoff, Governor of Turkestan, has been ordered to prepare for

military action in the direction of India in the event of Great Britain adopting an attitude openly hostile to Russia or attempting any enterprise in Persia or Tibet prejudicial to Russian interests. The threat, adds the Editor, is not a new one, seeing that for months past Russian newspapers have been venting their spleen on England, whom they accuse of egging on Japan to fight Russia. The *Pioneer* is perfectly right in calling the threat an idle one, for the Muscovites have enough to do to maintain their position in the Far East. At all events, it can have no terrors for the British Government, and cannot induce the authorities to recall the Tibet Mission. The Editor further remarks that all that is likely is that the Russian officers near Afghanistan will set on foot intrigues to raise disturbances in that country. It is, however, impossible for such intrigues to succeed during the time of a wide-awake Amir like Habibulla Khan.

The same.

6. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 22nd February 1904, publishes similar remarks, and advises Russia to first recover the influence and prestige she has lost through repeated naval defeats at the hands of Japan.

The same.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd February 1904, also writes to a similar effect.

England and the Russo-Japanese War.

8. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 25th February 1904, writes—

"If the *Indian Daily News* Special printed in our telegraphic columns is a correct report, namely, that England 'complied immediately' with Russia's demand for declaring her neutrality 'within thirty-six hours,' one cannot help thinking that there was too much of imperiousness on Russia's part and a rather undignified haste on that of England. Of course, so long as Russia is not joined by another Power, England should remain neutral, and the Anglo-Japanese Agreement does not enjoin her to side with Japan until such a contingency occurs; but what is the meaning of Russia's call for compliance with her demand within thirty-six hours unless it means a threat in the event of England not doing so? And why should England submit to being dictated to in such a peremptory manner by the Power which is her sworn enemy, and never misses an opportunity to embarrass or humiliate her? It was an impertinent demand on the part of Russia to make, seeing that England had not shown the least inclination to take part in the war, and should have been replied to with due deliberation instead of with unbecoming haste. Perhaps England is afraid lest Russia should create trouble for her in the direction of India, but certainly the Northern Colossus has not yet shown either preparedness, or resources, or enterprise enough to make it probable that her threat can be carried into effect. The announcement at St. Petersburg that 'in connection with General Ivanoff's departure for Turkestan, the Russian troops in the direction of the Pamirs will be considerably reinforced' may be only another instance of braggadocio, for Russia certainly is not in a position now to indulge in any military demonstrations in the Pamirs or elsewhere, unless they be of a futile nature such as need not frighten anybody. As to any chances of an invasion of India, they are remoter now than ever, not only because of Russia's own embroglio with Japan, but also because all Eastern Asia must now be ranged against the Czar. The report that Russian money is flowing into France to create opinion in her favour in that country makes Russia's demand of England all the more impertinent and strange, seeing that she is evidently striving to draw France to her side. Surely, in the event of France joining Russia, England cannot remain neutral under the terms of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance."

9. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 20th February 1904, writes—

England and her Colonies.

"England in regard to its Colonies is in the unfortunate position of the ill-fated but ambitious parent of prosperous rascals. He has always to keep those scoundrels in humour, and yield with the sweetest alacrity to their most vicious wishes, so that they might not turn him out in the street, and he may thus be able to pose before the envious world as the central figure of a big, prosperous and obedient house. It is a curious Empire in which the Imperial voice is of so little avail; and the real import of the situation cannot be said to have been grossly exaggerated when it is pointed out that but for India—for the imperious authority of a jilted father is always concentrated with a vengeance, and often with the greatest success, upon his only unsuccessful and obedient child—England's present lofty pose as an Empire would have been shorn of much of its loftiness. The more powerful of the elements that compose the Empire are being rapidly alienated from the Central authority, and the melancholy significance of the fact is no longer to be ignored. Canada is crying for more freedom from the Imperial yoke in her internal affairs, and England is slowly but surely yielding. South Africa—as is evidenced by her attitude towards British Indian subjects, and her blunt refusal to contribute her share towards the cost of the war which was waged in her own interests—takes the Imperial voice into no serious account in the administration of her affairs, and England is powerless to make her influence felt in that quarter. And the finishing touch has been given to the business by Australia, which has openly rebelled, leaving England severely on the roadside as a helpless spectator."

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 19th February 1904, acknowledges the receipt of the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged...	...	15,564	13	9
Small subscriptions	...	16	0	0
Total	...	15,580	13	9

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 19th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 12th February 1904 ...		2,409	15	5
Small subscriptions	...	44	3	6
Total	...	2,454	2	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	12,198	9	8
Grand Total	...	14,652	12	7

12. The same paper is very glad to inform its readers that the Sultan has been greately pleased with the services rendered by the Editor in connection with the collection of subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway and has ordered a silver medal to be conferred on him. The Editor expresses

The same.

his gratitude to the Sultan for the honour bestowed on him, and prays that His Majesty may be long spared to steer the ship of Islam and bring to completion his untiring efforts to restore that faith to its former glory. He then thanks the Egyptian, Syrian and the Constantinople Press for congratulating him on the honour, and reproduces the Imperial *Irade* conferring the medal on him.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Russo-Japanese War and Native States.

13. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 8th (received on the 25th) February 1904, says that the war in the Far East is being followed with great interest by Native States, especially those whose Imperial Services Troops have fought in China. Ever since Russia took to swallowing up, one after another, Muhammadan Khanates and States in Central Asia, Indian Princes have been regarding her with distrust and suspicion; and her doings in the Far East have strengthened this feeling and thereby given British rule in India a great accession of strength. It is now no exaggeration to say that if Government is ever again placed in the position in which it was in 1885 the event will call forth a far grander demonstration of loyalty from the people than the Panjdeh incident did. The Editor concludes by remarking that the people and princes of India are in sympathy with Japan.

III.—Native States.

The Government of India and Native States.

14. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1904:—

"Mr. Malabari has rendered splendid service to the cause of humanity by publishing the pregnant observations of an English friend on the position of the Indian Feudatories. The position of the said Feudatories, as revealed therein, ought to bring tears to the eyes of the Government—if Governments can have such things as eyes—even as the sight of unfortunate Pussie stunned by his own cudgel brought tears to the eyes of the spoilt child. We reproduce the observations without comment:

'I have always thought the position of the Feudatories peculiarly invidious. They are so far foreigners, in the eye of the law, as to be denied redress in our courts for high-handed acts on the part of the Government; on the other hand, they are so far subjects of the Crown as to be subject to what is practically a criminal jurisdiction, and to penal proceedings, if they retaliate. Such a position is essentially unjust, and unknown to British law. Every one who is amenable to the coercive force of the executive is entitled to be heard in due process of law, and to have the benefit of judicial proceedings. Any one who is outside that privilege has the alternative privilege of making lawful and open war on the Government, without being treated as a rebel, and with the enjoyment of all the countenance and privileges which are accorded by the law of nations to a belligerent.

'It is not fair that an Indian Prince should have neither the fair play of a foreigner nor that of a subject. We deny him the justice which is the right of the crossing-sweeper, and we deny him equally the right and the power to meet us on level terms in battle or diplomacy. There is only one person in his position—and that is the outlaw.

'Where there is absolute submission to the British Crown, then in constitutional theory there ought to be the protection of British law. It may be replied that there is not absolute submission on the part of the Native States. But looking through forms to facts who can say that it is not sufficiently plain? The Feudatories have abandoned their international status: their fate is nothing to outside nations—it would be as easy to annex Cochin as to play Orange tunes through Cork.

'It might not succeed as an argument in the courts to say that power involves responsibility, and that by acquiring this ascendancy over the Chiefs, the Crown has *ipso facto* made British subjects of them, and invested them with power to sue the Government as any other British subject can. But it is an exceedingly strong argument in favour of extending to them the protection of a judicial body; and I think the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council might well be invested with such powers. It ought to be provided that at least nine members should sit—otherwise you might have a stupid Chancellor and a following of nonentities over-ruling a small minority of trained lawyers.'

"We recommend the above to the serious consideration of Lord Curzon, who takes so much interest in the Native States of India."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Grievances of pilgrims to Mecca.

15. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 24th February 1904, publishes a communication containing the gist of the *Watan's* articles concerning the grievances of pilgrims to the Hedjaz (*vide* paragraph 6 of Selections No. 7). The writer calls upon Punjabi Musalmans to request Government to remove the complaints in connection with quarantine camps, &c.

The attack on the Begam of Bhopal's party on their way to Medina.

16. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 8th February 1904, reports that it is rumoured that on her way to Medina the Begam of Bhopal was attacked by Bedouins and robbed of some money. Different reports are current about the incident: some say that the assailants carried away Rs. 60,000, while others assert that the Begam herself gave them Rs. 6,000. It is also rumoured that the occurrence has unnerved Her Highness, and that she will not now proceed to Mecca with her present retinue, and intends going with the party bearing the Sultan's presents to that city.

The same.

17. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd February 1904, refers to the report regarding the suite of Her Highness the Begam of Bhopal having been fired upon on their way to Medina, and remarks that the fact that His Majesty the Sultan had assured the Begam of a safe journey through Arabia makes the incident still more regrettable. The Editor adds that the Government of India would seem to be perfectly justified in dissuading Indian Musalmans from going on a pilgrimage to Mecca. After remarking that the construction of the Hedjaz Railway will afford pilgrims protection against the Bedouins, he finds fault with the Porte for the existing state of affairs.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*) *Police.*

Police officials and the grant of land on the Jhelum Canal.

18. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th (received on the 24th) February 1904, says that the land set aside by Government on the Jhelum Canal for distribution among retired Police officials is insufficient. The Editor adds that, although the duties of the Police are of a more arduous and responsible character than those of Civil or Military servants, the claims of Police officials do not receive the consideration they deserve. After stating that many a retired Police official has tried in vain to secure land on the said canal, the Editor urges upon Sir Charles Rivaz the advisability of making

a considerable addition to the amount of land set aside for the Police, remarking that Police officials cannot maintain themselves and their families on the small pensions allowed them by Government.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

19. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1904, writes—

The Government of India as "The Honorary Agent of an English Artist."

"We are not surprised to find that a statement in our last regarding the assumption by the Government of India, in the interests of a certain English artist, of the dignified rôle of an honorary agent, has been viewed in the light of the Season. For it can hardly have been supposed that the bump of imagination on the wisdom-laden head of the Government of India is so ill-developed as would make it fail to see that its assumption of the rôle of an honorary agent to the Hon'ble the Tea-planting Fraternity of Anglo-India ought to have been the beginning and the end of the scandal, instead of a prelude to its perpetuation. This last—we devoutly wish it would be the last—scandal has been brought to light by the *Bengalee*. We might not have been inclined to attach any very serious importance to the business if the Government of Lord Curzon had even chosen to confine its zeal on behalf of this English artist—one of His Excellency's "own countrymen"—to merely advertising the pictures, even at the expense of the Indian tax payer. But *overseal* in a tradesman's cause on the part of *Lord Curzon's* Government may strike the ordinary people as a little out of accord with the dignity of the British Raj in India. Imagine Lord Curzon's Government making 'efforts' to 'induce' *every* court in India (and even Municipalities and Public Associations!) to purchase copies of certain pictures of an English artist! Fancy the British Indian Association receiving a communication from the Government of India enquiring whether it would like to have copies of these pictures for its own Hall! The portraits being of the King and the Queen, every Indian who can afford it will gladly avail himself of this opportunity to secure copies. The only objectionable feature of the thing is the extraordinary interest taken by the Government of India in the sale of a particular picture, and the public is not to blame if it is inclined to ascribe motives. Says the *Bengalee*: 'We protest against this undisguised interference with private enterprise, which is neither one of the recognized duties of the Government of India nor is even compatible with their dignity.' The Calcutta Corporation has sanctioned the purchase of the portraits for the Town Hall against the vigorous protest of two European Commissioners, Messrs. Phelps and Cotton. Mr. Phelps belongs to the real type of English gentlemen, and Mr. Cotton is a chip of the old block."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—7-3-04—70.—J. B.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Confidential]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 9.]

SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 5th March 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese war.

1. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd February 1904, writing about the Russo-Japanese war, says that God's wrath seems to have overtaken Russia, and that the time of her humiliation has come. The wrongs committed by her have long been crying for vengeance, and she is about to expiate her sins. The Editor then goes to say that the war has created a commotion in Europe, and that all the Powers are busy making military preparations. No one, he adds, can say with confidence that the contest will be confined to the present belligerents, and that it will not cause a universal conflagration in Europe. At all events, it has stirred up Turkey, and she is concentrating her forces on the frontier of Bulgaria, the protegé of Russia. She seems to have come to the determination to decide the fate of Macedonia once for all, and to teach Bulgaria a lesson. The Editor further remarks that in case the Japanese succeed in reducing Port Arthur a rebellion will be certain to take place in the Russian dominions. The Muhammadan population, which has been subjected to oppression for years, will undoubtedly take up arms. And if the Afghans attacked Russia near Herat at the same time, and a revolt took place in Persia and three or four hundred thousand Turkish soldiers marched into the Caucasus, the death-knell of Russia, it is easy to imagine, would have been sounded. The Editor exhorts the Pathans and the Turks to profit by the crisis in the Far East and humble the pride of Russia, the old enemy of Islam. He also calls upon great Britain to wipe Russia off the face of the earth, while he praises Japan for the bravery displayed by her in fighting the Northern Colossus and assures her that the prayers of all India are with her.

The same.

2. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th February 1904, after referring to the *casus belli* and Russia's underhand conduct in connection with the negotiations, observes that the war is one of life or death to Japan. It is, however, unlikely that the combatants will be left to fight it out between themselves, seeing that all the European Powers are busy increasing their naval strength in the Far East. Germany and the United States of America

may have no mind to join in the fray, but France and England will help their respective allies and are only waiting for an opportunity to do so. Even as regards the first named two Powers, Germany is reported to have some secret understanding with Russia, while uncle Sam's sympathy with Japan is only too patent. The Editor then goes on to say that Japan has the good wishes of the whole of India, and that news of her victories is received with joy by both Natives and Anglo-Indians. The war, he adds, has also brought out the fact that all sections of the Indian population entertain feelings of downright hatred for Russia. Anglo-Indians hate her for being a rival of the British Government, while Hindus do so for this and one other reason, *viz.*, that she is an enemy of an ally of England. In addition to this, Japan being an Asiatic Power their sympathies, as is but natural, are with her. As regards Muhammadans, their dislike of Russia is based on her having seriously injured Turkey in diverse ways. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that the fate of the whole of Asia is involved in the war, seeing that Persia, China, Afghanistan and Turkey must stand or fall with Japan.

The same.

3. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 28th February 1904, says that, but for the establishment of British rule in India, Russia would have realised her dream of conquering this country, and hence her hatred of Great Britain. Russia, adds the Editor, is under the impression that it is at the instance of England that Japan has dared to defy her might. She, therefore, thirsts more after England's blood than after that of Japan, and has vented her anger by asking the Governor of Turkistan to invade India on certain eventualities taking place. The threat, adds the Editor, is intended to deter Great Britain from helping Japan and interfering in Tibetan affairs; but such vapouring cannot frighten the British lion. He concludes by remarking that evidently the days of Russia are numbered.

The Hedjaz Railway.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 19th February 1904 ...	2,454	2	11
Small subscriptions	109	0	0
Total ...	2,563	2	11
Add amount remitted to Turkey	12,198	9	8
GRAND TOTAL ...	14,761	12	7

The same.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th February 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	688	5	3
Small subscriptions	64	4	0
Total ...	752	9	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	1,942	7	6
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,695	0	9

6. A Hyderabad Correspondent, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th February 1904, suggests that instead of rendering indifferent help to a large number of charitable institutions, Indian Muhammadans should limit their charities to a few important movements, *e.g.*, the proposed establishment of a Muhammadan University. He adds that unless Mussalmans take their education in their own hands they will assuredly lag behind in the race for progress and thus precipitate their downfall as a nation. He then goes on to say that the sum of money collected by his brethren in faith for the Hedjaz Railway is quite inadeqate as compared with the magnitude of the enterprise. The best way, he says, to make the project a success is to enlist the sympathies of Muhammadan *talugdars* and princes in its behalf. For instance a Joint-Stock Company composed of the said Chiefs, &c., could easily undertake the construction of the branch line between Jedda and Arafat, a distance of about 45 miles. Again, if the line was conducted on commercial principles, it would prove a very lucrative concern.

The same.

7. The *Anglo-Vernacular Paper* (Gujránwála), of the 1st March 1904, writes as follows :—

The same.

"Our readers are well acqnainted with the ideas and intention of our Caliph H. I. M. the Sultan. He is ever kind towards the Moslems and is always endeavouring to improve their condition. He wants to see every Muslim filled with zeal for his true religion and that the Muhammadans should again join in the same brotherhood which prevailed in the time of the Prophet and his companions. His efforts are not limited to Syria, Mesopotamia and Turkey in Asia. On the other hand he is always trying to discover the means which may equally be useful to the Muhammadans of the whole world. The best way to unite the whole Islamic world was at last found out and that is the construction of the Hedjaz Railway. The line has innumerable advantages, both secular and religious. * * * * * * *

"This important railway is a source of convenience to perform a vital function of the Muhammadan religion, it paves our way to the holy places, it brings honour as merit to all the Moslems alike and to crown all this, it is under the direct supervision of the Caliph—but it has not yet received that help from the public which its importance demands. There are some exceptional cases where thousands of rupees have been subscribed by single individuals, but the public have not as yet realized the responsibility which lies upon their shoulders, in connection with this railway. If we do not pay our quota in its construction we are certainly neglecting our duty, nay we are disgracing the whole Muhammadan world in the eyes of non-Moslems by our inattention to this railway line. Is it not the duty of every Muhammadan to give up every thing in his possession for the sake of his religion? Will not the Prophet on the Day of Judgment, when we go to him for intercession, ask us what we contributed to a railway line undertaken in his name? * * * * * * *

"Some thoughtless folks are under the stupid impression that H. I. M. the Sultan is personally unable to spend so much money as is required for the construction of this important railway, they think perhaps this is the sole reason why he appeals again and again to the Islamic world to pay attention to this scheme. These are the greatest fools the world could produce. They do not consider that an Emperor who is the master of Syria, Mesopotamia and Arabia can easily construct a railway line. Our Caliph, the Commander of the Faithful, has a great object in view. He wants to inspire us with the true faith. Our hearts and souls have become dead, he wants to give life to them. We have neither shame nor zeal for religion, he intends to make us feel these Islamic qualities over again. These are the chief reasons which make the Caliph appeal to the

Musalmans again and again. If this railway line be constructed with the money of the Moslems of the whole world, every man shall feel it as if it were a monument constructed by himself and as if it belonged to him and we know every man likes his own possession.

"On the contrary if this line be constructed by the Turkish Government we can have no spiritual advantage to ourselves. Our hearts shall remain as black as they are and the Islamic zeal which has quite disappeared from us can never return to us. Zeal and shame are the two branches of the tree of faith, and if the Muhammadans even now keep silence as they have done in the past we must infer that they care no longer for their honour or religion. Our opinion is that this railway should be constructed. * * *

"Some ignorant people are under the false impression that if they help in the construction of this railway line they shall be marked by the British Government as disloyal and disobedient. These people do not seem to have conceived a correct idea of British principles and policy. Has not the Governme nt given you perfect freedom in religious matters?

"Those who take advantage of this freedom are always liked by the Government. Those who do not avail themselves of the advantages of this freedom are unable to understand this blessing and cannot consequently appreciate British rule and its innumerable blessings.

"This is only a religious duty, it is neither a mutiny nor helping the enemies of the Government in any way. It is simply offering a convenience to those who desire to visit Mecca or Medina or both. We do not see any cause for the Government displeasure. Perhaps all our readers know that, when the brother of the Sharif visited India for the collection of subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway, he was recommended by H. E. the Governor of Bombay. This is one of the greatest proofs that the Government is quite satisfied and pleased with the construction of this line. We ask our readers once more to pay to this line the attention which it deserves. It is their religious duty to assist in the progress of their religion. Get a place for yourself in paradise by assisting those who want to make a pilgrimage to Mecca. All our readers have not yet paid their subscriptions. H. I. M. the Sultan has to appeal to the Moslems again and again. No railway has yet been constructed by the money of the Mussalma ns. This is the first line which is being constructed by them, but they are still hesitating to pay subscriptions. Other nations have made hundreds of thousands of miles of railway with their own money, but we, the Muhammadans, have not still made even a single line which we may claim as our own. Is this neglect not a source of shame to us?

"We hope the Muhammadans will now make such efforts that the Caliph shall not be obliged to make a fresh appeal. It is a source of disgrace to the Muhammadans that the Caliph has to make appeals often for such a great matter. * * *"

(b)—Home.

Government and the people.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd March 1904, publishes an article headed "Does Great Britain perform her Duty towards India?" The question, says the Editor, has been answered in the negative by Mr. Donald Smeaton, formerly a member of the Viceroy's Legislative Council and now a candidate for a seat in the House of Commons. The articles published by Native newspapers with a view to awaking the authorities to the above duty are characterised as impertinent and insolent. Now, however, that a noted Anglo-Indian statesman has made the same complaint against Government, there can be no doubt that it must be well-founded. The Editor then quotes extracts from a recent speech by Mr. Smeaton in which that gentleman

deprecates England's indifference towards India and exhorts Lancashire manufacturers to urge Government to lighten the burden of the Native tax-payers, adding that this will have the effect of stimulating the sale of their goods in India. Although this is an appeal to the Englishman's love of lucre, still it is calculated to benefit Natives and consequently they cannot but feel grateful for it. Nevertheless, it would have been better if, instead of making such an appeal, Mr. Smeaton had tried to show that Great Britain was morally bound to treat this country with justice, and that she ought never to lose sight of the duties a ruler owes his subjects.

Disunion amongst Natives.

9. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1904, publishes a cartoon designed to show that it is disunion which prevents Natives from enjoying the wealth of their country.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Dr. Abdul Ghani.

10. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 26th February 1904, says that very disquieting rumours are afloat concerning Dr. Abdul Ghani. Recently he obtained leave of absence and was due at Peshawar about the beginning of February. It is reported that on suspicion of being a spy of Government, Dr. Abdul Ghani was detained at Jalalabad by order of the Amir, and that on a search some being made some papers of an incriminating character were found on his person, with the result that he was sent back to Kabul. If the report is well-founded, adds the Editor, Habibulla will henceforth have no faith in his Indian servants. He, however, feels confident that further enquiries will establish Dr. Abdul Ghani's innocence and prove him to have been a faithful servant of the Amir.

III.—Native States.

Jodhpur affairs.

11. A correspondent of the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th February 1904, writing about Jodhpur affairs, complains that the tours of certain State officials prove a source of ruin to the people. The *amla* with these officials ask for more provisions than they require and make extraordinary demands on headmen. Those of the last-named who fail to do the bidding of the *amla* are subjected to diverse hardships and not infrequently lose their places. In order, therefore, to propitiate the latter and retain their posts they have to loot the State subjects. The writer then goes on to say that during his stay in Jodhpur the Resident has undertaken several tours, and that on these occasions he had hundreds of men, a number of horses and elephants and scores of impressed camels with him. It may easily be imagined that every village where he halted must have been devastated. The correspondent admits that the Resident is an extremely kind and just officer, but he cannot say the same of his *amla*, who must have subjected the people to great inconvenience. He further alleges that bribery and corruption are rampant in most of the law courts in the State, that certain Magistrates would give any decision for a consideration even of Re. 1, and that in two or three courts judgments are delivered in favour of the highest bidder. After remarking that the majority of the courts are presided over by men having no knowledge of law or procedure, he calls upon the Maharaja and the Resident to remedy the above state of affairs.

V—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Grievances of pilgrims to the Hedjaz.

12. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th February 1904, remarks that, although they are British subjects, Indian Muhammadans look upon the Turkish Government as their sovereign, nay, believe its head to be their Caliph. Whenever they see that Government threatened with any danger their hearts are filled with grief and they pray to God in mosques to avert the calamity, while their females offer similar prayers at home; fasts also sometimes observed for the attainment of the end in view. On the other hand, they hold rejoicings on receipt of glad tidings regarding the Sultan, while in time of war Musalman females, let alone their male relations, have parted even with their ornaments in order to help His Majesty. That this is so is clear from Indian Muhammadans of both sexes having subscribed liberally towards the Hedjaz Railway, although their country has been in the grip of famine and plague for a long time past. The Editor then goes on to say that Musalmans of a religious turn of mind dislike living in India and may be heard expressing a wish to end their days in Mecca. Indeed, many have not returned from a pilgrimage to that city and have taken up their residence there. But the accounts of the hardships which pilgrims have to undergo in Arabia and of the oppression practised on them by the Sharif of Mecca deter many a Muhammadan from undertaking the pilgrimage. The Editor blames the Turkish Government for this, and asks it to set matters right.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets Bill.

13. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 21st February 1904, writing about the Official Secrets Bill, suggests that Government should prepare an Urdu translation of the report of the Select Committee and supply copies thereof to every newspaper and society in the country, so that the public may know which of the defects in the proposed law have been removed. The Editor is also of opinion that the Bill should not be rushed through the Council, but that its consideration should be postponed to next winter, so as to allow the public sufficient time to criticise the measure.

The same.

14. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd February 1904, writing on the same subject, fails to see why the Indian Press should oppose the proposed law. Newspapers are meant to serve as interpreters between the Government and the people, and should, therefore, obstain from devulging political secrets. After remarking that apparently this Bill is intended to prevent military secrets from being made public, the Editor emphasises the futility of opposing a measure which Government seems determined to carry through.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

The administration of justice in India.

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 5th March 1904, writes:—

"By the acquittal by the High Court of Calcutta of Police Inspector Bepin Behary Dey of Dinajpore, who was sentenced to *twenty-five years' rigorous imprisonment* for absolutely nothing, the curtain may be said to have fallen on a scandal which is without

parallel even in the annals of India. The poor fellow, we are glad to learn, has been reinstated and is likely to be recompensed for the considerable amount of unnecessary expenditure to which he has been subjected. Poor Bepin Behary, as will be remembered, had been sacrificed at the altar of a nasty quarrel between Mr. Fisher, the District Judge, and Mr. Garret, the District Magistrate. Finding the District Magistrate too strong for him, the District Judge wrecked his vengeance upon Bepin Behary because he was backed by the District Magistrate! The announcement that Bepin Behary will be recompensed for the unnecessary expenditure he has incurred has naturally raised the question whether it will not be out of accord with the dictates of decency that the Indian tax-payer should be made to suffer for a quarrel between two Government officials, of which the incarceration of Bepin Behary was an insignificant side-issue, or whether it will not be in accord with the dictates of justice and fair play to have the amount realised from the salaries of these gallant Civilians. Says the *Amrita Basar Patrika* :—

'The adage is, "the wild buffaloes fight and the cane jungles where they reside suffer." The District Judge and the District Magistrate fought with each other over a Police Inspector, and the Indian tax-payers have to pay for the protracted litigation! A nice arrangement, is it not? If it is really decided to pay Bepin's expenses, the amount should be realized from the salaries of the two fighting Civilians. And then, is not the spectacle most astounding that, while, in the opinion of the District Judge, the accused deserved such a ferocious punishment as 25 years' rigorous imprisonment, which is perhaps worse than death, certainly more terrible than transportation for life, in the opinion of the High Court he deserved no punishment at all? This sort of administration of justice shows that there is some screw loose somewhere in the administrative machinery. The case ought to attract the notice of the Government.'

"Such administration of justice shows that there is not a little of the old Quazi element in the British system of the administration of law."

(c)—Municipal and Cantonment Affairs.

Natives and Cantonment Committees.

16. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 21st February 1904, refers to the appointment of four house-proprietors as additional members of the Meean Meer Cantonment Committee, and suggests that the concession should be extended to Sialkot, Rawalpindi, Peshawar, Jullundur, Ambala, Ferozepore, Mooltan, Jhelum, &c.

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Nil.

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Nil.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 12th March 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese War.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1904, writes—

"All classes of Indians seem to be vicariously fighting Russia through the persons of the gallant Japanese. The news of a Japanese victory so transports them with joy, and the rumour of a Japanese failure so depresses them, as if they themselves would reap the fruits of victory should the Northern Colossus be beaten. There is nothing surprising in the wave of pro-Japanese enthusiasm that is passing over our country. It is the first time in modern history that an Asiatic race has shown itself worthy of holding its own in the game of war with a Western nation, and that the greatest military Power in the world. The science of warfare is peculiarly a European science, Asiatics having long given up all hope of ever competing with them in this field. Undoubted physical supremacy brings in its train superiority in all other directions, and the military irresistibility of the Occident has made it the Dictator and teacher of the Orient, in spite of its antiquity, literature, and philosophy. Asiatics had learnt to bow unquestioningly to European domination as they resign themselves to whatever is inevitable. Japan has now shown that even in physical contest the Asiatic need not be hopelessly the weaker party. Should Japan be worsted in the end the effect of the example set by it would not be lost. The fact of one side being always unshakeably confident of superiority over another, produces no end of moral and spiritual harm, not to speak of gross material injury arising from the condition. The Russo-Japanese War, whichever way it may end, cannot fail to create respect for Asiatic capacity, and thus reduce the frequent Western tendency to contemptuous and violent arbitrariness in dealing with Oriental peoples."

England and Russia and India.

2. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 4th March 1904, remarks that the recent Russian threat of "Military action in the direction of India" in the event of Great Britain attempting in Tibet any enterprise prejudicial to Russian interests should not be taken seriously. There can be no doubt that Russia has sinister designs on this country, but it is equally clear that there are formidable difficulties in the way of a Russian invasion of India. Indeed, it is easy to believe that, but for these difficulties, the Russians would long ago have realised their dream of invading Hindustan. As it is, the Russo-Japanese War has rendered it practically impossible for Russia to attempt the task at the present juncture; and she is astute enough not to make a move now, for otherwise she will be courting her own ruin.

3. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st March 1904, approves of Great Britain's attitude with reference to the Russo-Japanese War.

The same.

In case, however, adds the Editor, the Russians attempt to make trouble on the frontier, she will have to change this attitude, while both the people and the Princes of India will stand by her in checkmating the enemy. He then insinuates that Government should not expect the Amir to espouse the cause of either in times of difficulty.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th March 1904, says that although Bulgaria is one of the many secret and open enemies of Turkey she dare not face the Turks single-handed. This is evident from the fact that Russia's hands being full in the Far East, and she being no longer able to stand by them, the Bulgarians have opened negociations with the Porte with a view to make their peace with Turkey. The Editor observes that although it is generally desirable to settle a dispute amicably, the well-wishers of Turkey should remember that Bulgaria now sues for peace, not because she is sincerely desirous of it, but because the present is not a favourable time for the realisation of her designs. The Sultan should not, therefore, lose the opportunity offered him by the Russo-Japanese War to read the Bulgarians a lesson.

Turkey and Bulgaria.

5. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 8th March 1904, after stating how certain parts of Turkey have from time to time been lost to her, says that it is needless to point out that Russia has invariably been at the bottom of the mischief. Her policy has all along been first to raise disturbances in a Turkish province and then to appear on the scene as a mediator, her interference always resulting in the weakening of the Turkish Empire. She has of late been following a similar policy in connection with Macedonia and Bulgaria, but her designs have been frustrated by the Russo-Japanese War. The Editor then states that it is reported that negociations are being carried on between Bulgaria and the Porte with a view to settling their mutual differences. He does not, however, believe in the *bonâ fides* of these proceedings and remarks that in the light of the facts that have transpired, war must sooner or later break out between Turkey and Bulgaria.

The same.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th and 7th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	15,580	13	9
Small subscriptions	105	11	0
Total	15,686	8	9*

*Of this Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th March 1904, compares the civilisation of ancient India with that of Rome and says that at one time this country was justly considered the "Flower of the World." Although

India—past, present and future.

those times are past, signs remain which bear testimony to India's former glory ; and it is quite possible that, like Japan, she may one day prove to the world that life is not wholly extinct in the Continent of Asia.

III.—Native States.

8. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd March 1904, says that Native Chiefs cannot appoint Prime Ministers of their own States and have to request Government to fill these posts, the officers selected being in the first instance appointed for a term of five years. The Editor adds that those Princes who love pleasure are so afraid of the said officers that they take no notice of their mal-practices. They are under the impression that by interfering with officers lent by Government they will only be bringing about their own deposition. Indeed, as long as they keep their lips sealed they are credited with ability and vigilance; but should they break their silence they incur the anger of their Prime Ministers, who thereupon begin to traduce them to Political Agents and have them deposed. Again, not a few of these Ministers are unscrupulous and extort large sums of money and *jagirs* from their masters by threatening to bring to light the immoral doings of the latter. They also try to create estrangement between Native Chiefs and their relations in order to gain their own selfish ends. The Editor then suggests that no *Madár-ul-Maham* should be granted an extension of service in the same State, and that on the expiry of his tenure of office he should be transferred to some other State. He concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

Native States and their Prime Ministers.

VI.—Legislation.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1904, writing about the Official Secrets Act, remarks that the preserving and obstinate Government of Lord Curzon have proved to the world that if they once make up their minds to do a thing, even the united opposition of Natives and Anglo-Indians cannot make them turn back. The non-official members of the Viceroy's Council did their utmost to have Civil affairs removed from the Bill ; but theirs was a cry in the wilderness and they could achieve nothing against the overwhelming official majority, the proposed law having, except for an insignificant amendment, been passed in the objectionable form in which it emerged from the Select Committee. The Agha Khan, who is a nominated member, gave his vote in favour of the measure, but there is nothing to be surprised at in this. His conduct would have excited surprise only if he had joined Messrs. Morrison, Gokhale and others in opposing the Bill. At all events, now that the hateful law has been passed it is to be hoped that Government's and the Court's sense of responsibility will prevent innocent journalists being sent to Jail.

The Official Secrets Act.

10. The same paper of the 8th March 1904 remarks that although the Press in India already enjoys only a small measure of liberty and can render no valuable service to the public, it would seem that Government cannot bear to tolerate it even in its present wretched condition and has

The same.

amended the Official Secrets Act to render Indian newspapers of still less use. The manner, however, in which the amendment has been effected is to be regretted, the Bill having been passed into law in the teeth of universal opposition. Is it not a matter for regret, asks the Editor, that the prayers of the whole of India should be powerless to restrain Government from doing a thing detrimental to the interests of the country? He adds that a still more regrettable incident took place at the meeting of the Viceregal Council held on the 4th instant,—an incident which goes to show that Lord Curzon's Government possess the power and the will to disregard opinions not in consonance with their views. The Hon'ble Mr. Morrison made a vigorous speech tearing the Bill to tatters and advocating the removal of Civil affairs from its provisions; but not the least attention was paid to what he said. Sir A. Arundel's reply to his well-reasoned speech was absurd and irrelevant and did not prove the necessity for keeping Civil affairs secret. The Editor further remarks that Lord Curzon's assurance to the Indian public that the Official Secrets Bill would not be passed into law in any objectionable form has turned out to be the veriest moonshine.

11. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 8th March 1904:—

The same.

"The last meeting of the Viceroy's Legislative Council recorded the passing of perhaps the most unanimously and vehemently opposed measure in the annals of Indian legislation. Leaving aside the question of the power for good or evil of the Official Secrets Bill as it now stands, its passage through the Council shows the enormous power possessed by the official majority to carry out any measure they may set their heart upon. The number of amendments proposed was no greater an index to the opposition against the Bill than was the case with which the amendments were defeated of the power wielded by the Government. The only amendment accepted was the one moved by the Member in charge of the Bill, inserting the word 'important' in the definition of Civil affairs before the words 'matters of State.' So obviously useless were the protests of the non-official Members that on only a single amendment was a division asked for, and in that case the amendment was lost by 16 votes to 7. However, one good has resulted from the prolonged discussion that took place over the measure and the number and variety of the amendments proposed. They have led the Government to pledge themselves to a policy of the defensive rather than the offensive, and to place in the clearest light the provisions of the Bill that are capable of being misused. The Viceroy took pains to explain that the Bill as it now stands should, by reason of its greater precision of language than the original Act, be less and not more obnoxious to those who resent State interference. He contended that the effect of the measure would be negative, and it was not intended to use it as a penal weapon, while it was a measure investing the State to protect important secrets. 'We are dealing,' said His Excellency in closing the discussion, 'with a Government possessing some sense of responsibility, courts retaining some share of independence, and a public, which, whatever it may say when excited, has a very considerable confidence in both.' These assurances are all that are now left to the public to comfort themselves with, and if ever there should be found any signs of an inclination to use the new Act as a tyrannical measure, the public would be in possession of the consolation of pointing back to these protests of good intention on the part of the chief author of the Bill."

The same.

12. The *Observer* (Lahore) of the 9th March 1904, writes:—

"In the Viceroy's Legislative Council on Friday last, the Hon'ble Sir A. T. Arundle scored a victory in the face of strenuous opposition by passing his Official

Secrets Bill into law. The Hon'ble Mr. Morrison moved his amendment for the complete omission of the sub-clause about 'Civil Affairs' in a vigorous and closely-reasoned speech; Mr. Gokhale, Dr. Ausotosh and Nawab Syed Muhammad vigorously opposed the several objectionable features of the measure, but the dead weight of the Government majority carried everything before it; and the Act now stands on the Statute Book, a monument of the legislative wisdom of Lord Curson's Government and a menace to the liberty of the Press. Henceforth an Editor may expose the secret doings of a bureaucracy in the Councils of which the children of the soil have no effective voice, only at his peril. We cannot congratulate the Viceroy, who, while appearing to show great regard for public opinion, has so deftly cut the ground from under its feet, on passing that Act in utter defiance of it. After the enactment of the Official Secrets Bill, how hollow the profession sounds which His Excellency made about two years ago in his famous Simla speech, that secrecy has not been a part of his policy in governing this country. However our only consolation under the circumstances is in the strong faith we have in the generous instincts of our English rulers, which under a more liberal Government will, we trust, not long let them suffer this pernicious piece of legislation to pollute the basal principles of British jurisprudence."

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

The Administration of Justice as between Europeans and Natives.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1904, writes:—

"In their annual Report the Bengal Chamber of Commerce express profound dissatisfaction at the reply of the Government of India to their memorial regarding collisions between Europeans and Natives. The reply, we are informed, is hardly calculated to allay the feelings of apprehension alluded to in the memorial or to restore confidence in the 'impartial administration of justice with which all classes of the community ought to be imbued.' If ever that 'impartial administration of justice,' with which 'all classes of the community' are advised to be 'imbued,' was illustrated by example during one hundred and fifty years of British rule in India, it was done by Mr. Justice Sale in the Bain case, regarding whose memorable judgment in that case the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are quite convinced that it 'not only maintained the best traditions of the Calcutta High Court, but was equally in the interests of all classes of the community, Indian as well as European,' and was moreover 'strictly consonant with the principles of sound law and equity.' To add any comment to this perfect piece of sound argument might be akin to bringing under the painter's brush the lily of the valley. But it is interesting to know how it will affect the Sessions Judge, the jury, the Advocate-General and other legal advisers of Government, and the other Judges of the Calcutta High Court (all of whom held the accused guilty) to be told in their face that they were incapable of impartial administration, that they did not care to maintain the best traditions of the High Court, and that their actions were not strictly consonant with the principles of sound law and equity. But the Bengal Chamber of Commerce are nothing if not charitable, and even magnanimous; and with magnificent self-restraint bordering ominously close upon a spirit of downright renunciation, they announce their decision to make no reply to the letter from the Government of India 'in accordance with the policy which actuated the Committee in the first instance, and which was directed to preventing and not promoting agitation.' One cannot sufficiently admire the superhuman ability of the Bengal Chamber of Commerce to exercise such magnanimous self-restraint at a moment when no wish is nearer to their hearts than of pounding somebody's head into delicious pulp."

The Administration of Justice in India.

14. The same paper writes :—

"There is sensation upon sensation just now in the United Provinces. Next to plague and the arrangements of examination dates, the action of the Government of the same blessed Provinces in a case just disposed of by the High Court of Allahabad is the leading topic of the day, furnishing as it does an impressive illustration of the principle upon which the administration of criminal justice is based, and is intended to be based, in India. It appears that the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh wanted to secure enhancement of the sentence passed upon a poor man by a certain Magistrate, and had intended to appeal to the High Court against the decision. But before it could do so, it transpired that the High Court, to which the poor fellow had already appealed for justice, had found him innocent and ordered his acquittal accordingly, thus leaving no chance for the Government to take any further step in the matter. And because the Government of the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh has lost the chance of seeing a poor man into jail by his innocence being proved by the highest Tribunal in the Province, the said Government has issued an indignant order requiring Magistrates to give prompt intimation to the Government Advocate of their decisions in order to give sufficient time to the Government to go through the records of the cases and to move the High Court for the enhancement of punishment if necessary. The motive underlying the eagerness of the Government to go through the arduous task of scrutinising the records of cases in all the lower courts in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh is admirable. It is to be noted that the Government intends to take so much trouble not with a view to correcting undue punishment, if necessary, but solely with a view to enhancing it. We shall not be surprised if the next Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh shows an alarming recrudescence of the 'convicting' calamity from one end of the Provinces to the other."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—19-3-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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Received up to 19th March 1904.

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SELECTIONS
FROM THE
NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 19th March 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese War and the People of India.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1904, writes:—

"We draw the reader's attention to two letters appearing in our Correspondence columns emphasising the need of Indians showing their sympathy for Japan in her present situation in an active and substantial manner. Committees of Indian gentlemen have been organised in Bombay and Calcutta for collecting funds in aid of the Japanese sick and wounded, and the relief of the widows and orphans of Japanese soldiers and sailors who fall in the struggle. In Calcutta the students have begun to interest themselves in the matter and to show that they feel the inspiring impulse of Japan's brave stand for Asiatic honour and the interests of humanity and Oriental civilization. Is there not public life enough in 'practical' Punjab to set a movement on foot in the direction! We have enough of religious activity in the Province, and perhaps a little too much of controversial religion. A little show of practical religion and of appreciation of the only vestige of manly virtues left in the Orient would not be out of place or importune."

The Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th March 1904, announces that it has remitted to Constantinople a further instalment of Rs. 2,250 towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund, and that the balance in hand on the 3rd instant was Rs. 386-8-0. It then acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	386	8	0
Small subscriptions	127	14	0
Total ...	514	6	0
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	14,449	7	7
GRAND TOTAL ...	14,963	13	7

The same.

3. The *Tehsib-i-Naswan* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Balance left in hand on the 12th December last after remitting Rs. 1,118-9-5 to Constantinople	17	1	0
Subscriptions for the week	101	13	0
Total ...	118	14	0

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

			Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand ...	...	...	688	5	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	...	211	0	0
Total		...	899	5	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey		...	2,006	11	6
GRAND TOTAL		...	2,906	0	9

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

5. The *Anglo-Vernacular Paper* (Gujranwala), of the 8th March 1904, says that the *Trahlas-ul-sham* reports that Mahmud Bey Effendi, an Afghan refugee in Damascus, has been recalled to Kabul by the Amir and will shortly leave for Afghanistan with his family and younger brother Habibulla Bey. The newspaper named adds that Mahmud Bey is one of the five sons of the late Sardar Ghulam Muhammad Khan, who was a nephew of the Amir Dost Muhammad Khan and left his native land on the death of Sher Ali Khan, passing three years at Karachi and finally settling down at Damascus, where he supported himself on the allowance granted him by the Sultan of Turkey. In 1316 of the Hijri era the late Amir Abdul Rahman also granted the Sardar a maintenance allowance of Rs. 20,000 per annum. On His Highness' death Mahmud Bey went to Kabul, *vid* India, to condole with Habibulla, who accorded his guest a very kind reception. One day while the two were conversing together the Amir enquired of Mahmud Bey how Afghanistan could be made to move forward. The latter replied that the only way to attain that end was by means of education, upon which His Highness desired to be made acquainted with the Turkish methods and principles of administration. Mahmud Bey prepared a memorandum containing the required information, and after a perusal thereof Habibulla asked him to settle down in Kabul. He agreed to do so and has now returned to Damascus to bring away his family.

Recall of an Afghan refugee from Damascus.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1904, says that the rumour about the arrest of Dr. Abdul Ghani on suspicion of being a spy of the British Government has turned out to be wholly unfounded. The Doctor has safely reached his home at Jalalpur Jattan, and his detention by the Governor of Jalalabad was the result of a misunderstanding on the part of the latter, who has been reprimanded by the Amir for his action.

Dr. Abdul Ghani.

7. One Ghulam Haider, of Jalalpur Jattan, writing to the same paper, also makes similar remarks, and reproduces a copy of the Amir's order reprimanding the Governor aforesaid.

The same.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Official Secrets Act.

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th March 1904, deprecates the conduct of Lord Curzon's Government in passing the Bill in the teeth of universal opposition, and remarks that Indian newspapers will henceforth have to conduct themselves with extreme caution.

The same.

9. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 12th March 1904, also writes to a similar effect, and says that the 4th of March will long be remembered as the day on which the Indian Press, the representative of the people and one of the greatest blessings of British rule, was hampered and muzzled.

The same.

10. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 14th March 1904, remarks that, although the Bill was opposed by both sections of the Press—Anglo Indian and Native—and the general public, this has not deterred Government from passing it into law. After remarking that Lord Curzon's claim that he listened to the voice of the public on all occasions has proved only an empty statement, the Editor observes that a perusal of the report of the final debate on the Bill leaves no room for doubt that moral victory rests with the non-official members of the Viceroy's Council.

The same.

11. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 13th March 1904, publishes similar remarks, and adds that it is unfortunate that whatever spells ruin to India should be regarded by Government as a means of her salvation. All that the people could do was to point out to Government respectfully that it had committed a mistake in taking the Bill in hand. This they did, and it was for the Viceroy and his colleagues to listen to the public voice or not. The Editor further remarks that more regrettable than the new law itself is the misunderstanding which is thought to be at the bottom of such measures. Government, he adds, is not fully convinced of the loyalty of its Native subjects, although the last-named are always prepared to lay down their lives in its service. He is at a loss to understand how they should convince Government of their thorough loyalty and thereby make the authorities dispense with the necessity for passing laws like the one in question.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Judicial.

The Tilak case.

12. The following leading article appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th March 1904 :—

"Whatever cause it may be due to, it has from the outset of the proceedings instituted against Mr. Tilak been widely suspected that it was less of a judicial prosecution than a political persecution that the far too zealous but less wise Government of Bombay has been engaged in. The past dealings of that Government with this self-sacrificing Brahman patriot of Poona did never encourage any confidence in its wisdom and impartiality, while the almost indecent zeal exhibited by it to secure a conviction

has only tended to accentuate the suspicion. It was the widespread belief, well-founded or ill-founded, that the enormous influence which Mr. Tilak wields over his Mahratta fellow-countrymen—unfortunately for himself and the Bombay Government, but luckily for the country—is unaccountably dreaded by a timid Government only too conscious of its many mistakes in the administration of the country, and that it wanted to somehow get him into bad repute. This popular belief was strengthened when it was seen that the Government undignifiedly interfered with the natural course of justice by taking in its own hands what ought always to have remained a purely private prosecution, by constituting a special court to try the great accused, paying a European barrister so much as (so it is said) a quarter of a lakh to conduct the prosecution, then engaging the Advocate-General himself to conduct the prosecution in the High Court, and finally spending on the whole affair the almost fabulous sum of nearly three quarters of a lakh of money paid by the poor ryot and the poorer labourer. Mr. Aston was a Judge who had earned lasting notoriety by the monstrous sentence of transportation for life imposed on an insignificant vernacular journalist, and he is believed to have cultivated a feeling of morbid hatred of the Mahratta Brahman. Such a man was the Judge of Poona, and in addition to his office of Judge Mr. Aston was Agent to the Sardars of the Deccan. Poor Tai Maharaj, the misguided foolish young woman who is now no more, visited Mr. Aston in his latter capacity and poisoned him against Mr. Tilak as worst she might, *while* a case in which she and Mr. Tilak were involved on opposite sides, was actually before him as Judge. Mr. Aston, the Agent of the Sardars, was full of one side of the case—and that the side with which notoriously his sympathies lay—and then Mr. Aston the Judge sat on the judicial bench affecting to know nothing of the matter extra-judicially and to be trying to acquaint himself with the facts of the case to deal out even-handed justice. What pretence, what judicial farce this! Is this not a combination of the duties of prosecutor and judge in one man with a vengeance?

"Well, Mr. Aston heard the case, and in the course of the hearing had his reverge upon his *bête noir*, his sworn foe, the Mahratta Brahman. And happily for Mr. Aston the victim chanced to be the leader himself of the disreputable gang—the unspeakably vicious Tilak himself, whom in 1897 not a few sober and charitable Anglo-Indians were anxious (at least so they avowed themselves) to shoot. * * * *

"Mr. Aston discovered that Mr. Tilak was guilty of many crimes, and he was at once sent to the Magistrate. Then Government created a special court for the trial of Mr. Tilak, and it discovered another judicial prodigy in Mr. Aston's nephew, Mr. Clements, to decide the fate of Mr. Tilak. But before proceeding with the trial, it directed Mr. Brewin, an experienced and high-placed police officer, to investigate the case. After a minute investigation this capable officer is said to have reported that there was no case against Mr. Tilak. Therefore this unwelcome report has been successfully suppressed, perhaps never to see the light of the day; a case was prepared by some patchwork and jumbling; most of the offences of which Mr. Tilak was originally indicted by Mr. Aston were given up, and the case was proceeded with amid extraordinary judicial blunders, with the developments and the result we know.

"The rest of the story is either well known or soon told. But the most material points are brought out into striking relief by the illuminating judgment of Sir Lawrence Jenkins, for whom, by the way, no praise can be too high, and we shall best occupy the space at our command by quoting some salient portions of it.

* * * * * * * *

"Now, however, Mr. Tilak is acquitted and comes out not only without a stain on his character, but with added reputation, for his steadfast earnestness of purpose, his determined stand for what he holds to be right and just and true, and altogether he is a greater man to-day for the merciless misfortune he has been made to undergo by a blind and prejudiced Government. May we know what reparation the lords of Bombay

Castle are going to make to our honoured friend? For the sake of their own honour and of common decency, if for nothing else and from no higher motive, the heavy almost prohibitive, costs incurred by Mr. Tilak in defending himself against obstinate persecution ought to be repaid him by the Bombay Government. He is now a ruined man, and this is therefore the most honourable course for that Government to adopt. And we hope His Excellency Lord Lamington and his colleagues are Englishmen enough to accept this suggestion, which is being made from so many quarters. They ought to be at least selfish enough to entitle themselves to be called the worthy fellowcountrymen of Sir Lawrence Jenkins and Mr. Justice Batty."

(e) Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

The Pusa Agricultural Institute.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1904, in the course of an article on the Pusa Agricultural Institute Scheme, makes the following remarks :—

"The elaborate prospectus of the Pusa Agricultural scheme of which we gave the brief outlines in a resent issue suggests two ideas :—*first*, that the scheme is an ambitious one and sincerely intended to be a worthy memento of Lord Curzon's rule, like all His Excellency's schemes ; *second*, that, as in other similar Resolutions, there is a tendency of His Excellency's fondness for words to obscure the proportions of things and thus mar the usefulness of the project by leading to the selection of inadequate or incompetent agencies for the carrying out of the same.

* * * * * * * *

"The Resolution goes on to say that in view of these considerations the Government of India endeavoured to discover a suitable man, and they believe they have been successful in finding 'an eminently suitable person' in Mr. Coventry. The public must, however, be pardoned if they think that the labours of the mountain have begotten a mouse. What is there in Mr. Coventry's antecedents corresponding in any degree to the array of pompous words in the extract quoted above describing the qualifications of the would-be or rather *should*-be Principal, unless it be that he is '*not* an expert in any special branch of science?' And what is Government's justification for holding the belief that 'it is preferable' that the Principal 'should *not* himself be an expert in any branch of science,' unless it be to find an excuse for Mr. Coventry's inadequate training? If Mr. Coventry is not an expert in any branch of science, what is the value of the experiments he is said to have been carrying on, and what his recommendation for the Principalship of a Scientific Institute? And what proofs has he given of agricultural expertness with regard to Indian conditions? We do not go in with those of our Native contemporaries who hold that competent men might have been found among Indians to be placed in charge of the Institute, though we are sure there are Natives with better educational qualifications than Mr. Coventry possesses who might be selected ; but we are assuredly of the belief that the Principal of the proposed College and Institute should be a first-class man imported from Europe or America, a highly trained scientist as well as one conversant with practical agriculture, and not some Tom, Brown, or Bob whose antecedents are not at all calculated to command respect or confidence—except from a Government willing to be misled, if not to mislead."

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Retired Indian Civilians as Critics of the Government of India.

14. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 16th March 1904, writes as follows :—

"What a world of good might be done by retired Anglo-Indians if they were to devote the years of their well-earned leisure in their home to the work of enlightening public opinion in England on Indian matters and enlisting the sympathies of the great English people in the destiny of the country in which they have spent the greater part of their lives. Unfortunately, however, they either do not do anything for India or

overshoot the mark in their speeches and writings on behalf of India, which are couched in a strain that may serve to alienate the sympathies of Englishmen from the people of this country, instead of strengthening the existing relations, and thus do more harm than good. These utterances certainly make a bad impression on the Anglo-Indian officials and confirm some of them more than ever in their dislike of those placed under their authority. The bitterness to which such writings and speeches lead springs mostly from misrepresentations or exaggerations, and these misrepresentations are not seldom the outcome of personal discontent or displeasure with the Governmeod in India. Among recent utterances having the possibility of doing more harm than good to Indian interests may be included the speech of Mr. Donald Smeaton, formerly a member of the Viceroy's Council, which is being largely reproduced in the Indian Press and freely commented upon. It has been regarded in two different lights. The Anglo-Indian Press has generally denounced it as not only unworthy of a retired Government servant, but as an undignified attempt to discredit the Government against which he has a personal grievance, that of not having been appointed to the Lieutenant-Governorship of Burma. A section of the Indian Press, the views of which seem to have been freely made use of by Mr. Smeaton, on the other hand, has unqualified praise for the boldness of the utterance as well as for the boldness of the measures proposed for the amelioration of India. While we are not among those who are always inclined to assume personal discontent as working behind an effort by an Anglo-Indian to show sympathy with the people—it would be too ungenerous and even unjust to make such an assumption—but reading Mr. Smeaton's speech one can hardly resist the conclusion that the extreme views expressed in it are not absolutely independent of personal relations with Lord Curzon's Government. A passage like the following, for instance, in the speech speaks for itself and scarcely needs any further comment:—

'The old Company scourged India with whips; the British Government is at the present moment scourging it with scorpions; and we are in sight of another rebellion, more serious for this country than the Mutiny of 1857, precipitated by the misgovernment—the insolent misgovernment—under which India at the present moment is groaning. It is not an armed rebellion that threatens us, but a rising of the best intellect—and let me add of the deepest loyalty—against an evil system, and harmful machinery operated by a Viceroy who seeks, with almost Asiatic craft, to tighten the bondage and rivet the chains which some of his beneficent predecessors had sought to loosen. Since the Mutiny, India has witnessed the enfranchisement of coloured peoples; the rights of free men bestowed on those formerly in bondage. She has silently watched the struggle for free representative institutions all over the civilised world; her sons have had a hand in some of these struggles; they have been inspired by Gladstone, the great Apostle of Liberty; have witnessed the victories won by Labour, and the emancipation of the labourer. India has resolved, through her natural leaders, that she shall no longer be dragged behind the chariot of a despotic Viceroy, but shall take the place in the world to which her magnificent past and the aspirations of her children entitle her.'

"The poison that the words quoted above contain appears quite on the surface, and the hits against the present Viceroy are too personal to be taken as merely philanthropic or resulting from a purely righteous indignation. It would have been much better if Mr. Smeaton had controlled his passionate pen and pressed the claims of the Indian people on the attention of Great Britain with moderation. In that case he would have been entitled to be regarded as a benefactor of this country and one of those rare Anglo-Indian celebrities who try to win a country's gratitude by the right use of their experience and their talents." * * * * *

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th March 1904, winds up an article headed "The *Futility of Indian Agitations*" as follows:—

The partition of Bengal.

"It is this violent and arbitrary transfer from the government of an old and historic Province to that of the tea-planting oligarchy that has so upset the people of the threa-

ened districts. In Calcutta those who know have lost all hope, since the powers that be, they have ascertained, are determined to carry out their scheme. Even if the deep and wide agitation going on against the scheme had been believed to be genuine by Lord Curzon and his advisers, they need not have been deterred by it. Long experience has taught our rulers that, however keen and sincere may be the Indian's opposition to a measure, he sits down resignedly under its operation as soon as it is irrevocably passed. Unfortunately, however, our worthy Viceroy honestly believes that the whole mighty agitation is a got-up one, engineered by interested parties in Calcutta and Bikrampur! After such instances of want of faith in the sincerity of the greatest and most heart-felt agitation ever witnessed in India, few can help giving way to total despair as to the designs and projects of the Sirkar."

Corruption amongst Government officials.

16. The same paper writes as follows:—

"Reuter sends sensational reports of corruption prevailing among the responsible officers of the staff at Vladivostock and Port Arthur. Before we hold up our hands in horror, or pass judgment on the debasement of Russian character, we ought to enquire whether such things are absolutely unknown in India; aye, even in England. In the great Supply Department of India, is it not a common sight to see subordinate officers on meagre salaries living in princely style, and amassing considerable fortunes in a few short years? Does not 'offerings to the gods' (as the phrase runs) form one of the principal items of expenditure in the books of Supply and Transport Contractors? How could the fast dwindling body of Supply Agents keep establishments costing a thousand rupees a month, while their own salary never exceeded seventy rupees per mensem? Is the state of things in the other great spending departments at all better? Have all the resolutions and regulations of the Government done much towards stopping the practice of *Dali* giving? How is it that there is sometimes a run on local jewellers' shops on the eve of the allotment of big Government contracts? Is the system of giving 'commissions' for orders (so pointedly referred to in a Vladivostock telegram) absolutely unknown in England? Not to go back to the times of the American War, when so many ugly facts about bribery and corruption came to light, did not suspicion attach to some big military purchases in connection with the South African War? Let us, therefore, pause before we throw stones at others, remembering that there is no nation of saints as there is no nation of sinners."

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS
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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS
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I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 23rd March 1904, says that at one time it was feared that the despatch of an expedition to Tibet would lead Russia to espouse the Grand Lama's cause. The Russo-Japanese War has, however, dispelled this fear and removed Russia from the field of Tibetan politics. This and the penetration of British forces into almost the very heart of Tibet ought to have opened the eyes of the people of that country. After remarking that the Tibetans dare not think of attacking the expedition, the Editor observes that in all probability the Chinese Ambassador will persuade them to make their peace with Government. He adds that an impression has got abroad that the British Foreign Office sanctioned the despatch of the expedition after satisfying itself of the imminence of a war between Russia and Japan, and that the English egged on Japan to the war in order to divert Russia's attention from Tibet. Russia, who is notorious for indulging in vain boasts, has threatened to invade India as a counter-move; but the Editor would advise her to settle her quarrel with Japan first.

Ill-treatment of Muhammadans in Russian dominions.

2. The *Gurson Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th March 1904, says that the injuries inflicted by Russia on Musalmans are too numerous to be recounted in the course of a newspaper article. She has, one after another, managed to swallow up all the Musalman States in Central Asia. Again, the Prophet's followers in Russia enjoy only a small measure of religious liberty and are, contrary to the tenets of their faith, obliged to keep the Czar's portrait in their places of worship; while they can erect a new mosque only after they have obtained Government's sanction by presenting an application signed by not less than 300 men. After referring to certain other disabilities imposed on the Czar's Muhammadan subjects, the Editor says that the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese War has come as a relief to Turkey, Persia and Afghanistan, the objects of Russia's particular attention.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,686	8	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	42	9	0
Total	...	*15,729	1	9

* Of this sum of Rs. 14,033-11-6 have been remitted to Turkey through the National Bank.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 11th March 1904	...	514	6	0
Small subscriptions	...	475	13	7
Total	...	990	3	7
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,445	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	15,435	5	7

Local Self-Government.

5. The *Punjab Chronicle* (Mooltan), of the 21st March 1904, writes :—

"Lord Ripon will ever be remembered in the annals of India as one of her greatest benefactors. His love for the Indian people was such that throughout the term of his Viceroyalty he never let slip an opportunity of doing good to the people of this country. His anxiety to ameliorate the political condition of our countrymen found expression in the law, which he passed, giving right of local self-government in certain matters to the citizens of the Indian Empire. It is said, therefore, to contemplate that this most valuable right is not exercised in the proper spirit and is made a means of serving personal interests even by the most enlightened members of our society. For the masses, one is sometimes forced to admit the right of election, which has been in many cases thrust upon them, is a very doubtful privilege and certainly premature. That to introduce in this country a system of election by votes suited only to the highly civilized countries of the West was a mistake is being daily demonstrated by the scandals which seem to be inseparably connected with our Municipal elections. That the masses do not as yet comprehend and appreciate this privelege can be proved by a cursory glance at the District Board Reports for the past few years. The seats for elected members are not fully utilized, and a contested election is a thing almost unknown in the history of the District Board of this Province. Considering the way in which the existing right of election is being exercised, we are inclined to think that our 'patriots' would be much better advised if, instead of crying for an extension of the right, they were to set themselves to bring the masses to a just realization of what they already possess. 'First deserve and then desire' is a counsel which is as true now as it was in times gone by."

The Russo-Japanese War and the Natives of India.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th March 904, says that in the course of an article in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, Mr. T. H. Skrine, late of the Indian Civil Service, remarks that Russia's defeat at the hands of Japan will have the effect of firing the ambition of the warlike races in India, and that the creation in their minds of the belief that they could throw off the British yoke will greatly lower Government's prestige. Another retired Anglo-Indian Civilian makes in the columns of the *Daily Chronicle* the ridiculous statement that the triumph of a "Yellow" race over a white will have the effect of lowering the whites in the world's estimation. Writings like the above, adds theEditor, are being published with the object of transferring England's sympathy from Japan to Russia. He further remarks that it is true that Natives pray for victory to Japan, but that the idea that in case of their prayers being granted they could overthrow British rule is absurd in the extreme. In conclusion, he finds fault with retired Indian Civilians for spending their leisure hours in maligning India, and remarks that Mr. Skrine is the same gentleman who some time back raised the cry that Muhammadan preachers in Bengal were in the habit of creating disaffection towards Government.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st March 1904, writing on the same subject, says that, although Natives are the most loyal and peace-loving people on the face of the earth, Government's foolish friends of the type of "Skrine & Co." would make it doubt their loyalty. If, adds the Editor, troubles ever arise in this country, Government will have to thank the above worthies for it. He further remarks that, barring the turbulent frontier tribes, one will seek in vain for a revolutionary spirit throughout the length and breadth of India. Indeed, the very fact of the establishment of movements like the National Congress, which criticise Government measures openly, should go to show that the people are desirous of the permanence of British rule in Hindustan and that they point out its defects only to make it still more popular.

The same.

8. A Gwalior correspondent, writing to the *Salik-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari) of the 17th March 1904, ironically remarks that Lord Curzon is busy conquering the hearts of the people. The writer adds that His Excellency is not likely to bring to completion his many schemes of reform before leaving this country, but that if he does so the results will be on a par with the proceedings of the Delhi Railway Conference. And if he is questioned on the subject he will profess to know nothing of the matter. Again, although the Viceroy is reported to be sympathetic towards Natives, in reality he is partial to Europeans and Eurasians, as reading between the lines of his speeches will show. The correspondent would advise His Excellency to leave off talking, raise the status of Indian Princes and throw open higher appointments in the public service to the children of the soil. He then insinuates that a large number of British military officers having been killed during the Tirah Campaign, Lord Curzon has organised the Imperial Cadet Corps to find other targets for the enemy's bullets on such occasions. It is true that European officers in the army are averse to the members of the Corps being placed on a footing of equality with them, but a whisper in their ears will act like magic in silencing them.

Lord Curzon

9. The *Zemindar* (Lahore), of the 16th March 1904, says that some time back it criticised Lord Curzon's policy adversely. remarking that the same was calculated to create estrangement between the rulers and the ruled, weaken the former and encompass the latter's ruin. It also referred to certain of His Excellency's acts—*e. g.*, the virtual annexation of the Berars, interference in the administration of Patiala, &c.—in support of its assertion. The *Watan*, however, expressed disagreement with it and took up the cudgels on behalf of Lord Curzon. But will that paper say if the new Official Secrets Act and the Universities Bill have wrought no change in his views regarding His Lordship? After remarking that, while the former measure is a piece of high-handedness, the latter aims at depriving India of the power begotten of higher education, the Editor says that there can be no doubt that the Viceroy is a statesman of the first order, but that he displays his statesmanship when the interests of England, and not of India, are to be safeguarded.

The same.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd March 1904, regrets that a strong and liberal-minded Viceroy like Lord Curzon should have become a mere tool in the hands of his colleagues in his Council. His Excel-

lency's early public utterances had created a hope that under his Government at least the country would cease to be official-ridden. Subsequent events have, however, dashed the hope to the ground and the Urdu Press is forced to agree with Bengalee newspapers that under his régime red tape has obtained still greater ascendancy. The Editor then goes on to say that it is really very unfortunate for India that a statesman with Lord Curzon's antecedents should have joined forces with the Indian bureaucracy and countenanced measures like the Official Secrets Act and the Indian Universities Bill. Nor is this all. It has been the acknowledged policy of the Government of India to abstain from interfering without cause in the internal affairs of Native States. Lord Curzon, however, although he supports the policy in his public speeches, has shown himself to be of a different mind. For instance, he appointed Colonel Barr Resident in Hyderabad in the teeth of strenuous public opposition. Again, while formerly the Government of India had to be referred to only in connection with filling the appointment of Prime Minister of the State, the Resident's sanction has now to be obtained to every appointment under the Nizam's Government. The Editor concludes by remarking that almost all important posts in Hyderabad are in the hands of Europeans, and that according to the *Nayyar-i-Asfi* the post of Joint Revenue Secretary is about to be conferred on the son of Colonel Barr.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Official Secrets Act.

11. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th March 1904, writing about the Official Secrets Act, says that Sir Edward Law's arguments justifying the inclusion of civil affairs in it were wholly beside the point. The Editor would go a step further and assert that Government has adduced no proof whatever to show that the old Act needed amending. He has, therefore, no hesitation in saying that Government has effected the amendments, not with the aid of arguments, but by sheer force. He further remarks that Lord Curzon's statement that the framers of the original Act intended it to cover civil affairs also cannot pass muster with the Indian public, excepting of course the nominated Native members of His Excellency's Council. After stating that educated Natives regard the measure as calculated to arrest the progress of journalism in their country, the Editor observes that the same has had the unfortunate effect of coupling the names of Lords Lytton and Curzon. If the former tried to muzzle Native newspapers by means of the Vernacular Press Act, the latter has achieved the same result by passing the Official Secrets Act. It will need another Ripon to undo the mischief and restore the liberty of the Native Press.

In another paragraph the same paper remarks that the Official Secrets Act is a worse piece of legislation than the Vernacular Press Act could ever be, inasmuch as, while the latter aimed a blow at the liberty of the Vernacular Press, the former will have the effect of muzzling both the Native and the Anglo-Indian Press. After remarking that in not a few cases the interests of Government are not identical with those of the public, and that the new law has made it dangerous for newspapers to publish anything to safeguard public interests in such cases, the Editor observes that the measure has made it penal for a journalist to perform his duty. He would like to know if this is not strangling honest journalism by means the reverse of fair.

12. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 19th March 1904, deprecates the conduct of Government in passing the Act in the teeth of universal opposition, and says that the Native members of the Viceroy's Council had the best of the arguments. After referring to the circumstances which led to the enactment of the original law, the Editor remarks that journalists in this country have since been conducting themselves with extreme caution. Shortly after was amended the law of sedition, which had the effect of hampering the Indian Press still further. Not satisfied even with this, however, Lord Curzon's Government has now extended the field of the application of the Official Secrets Act. The Editor is afraid that this is calculated to thoroughly muzzle the Press in India, as also to give the world to understand that Government reposes no trust in the people.

The same.

13. The *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), and the *Zemindar* (Lahore), of the 15th and the 16th March respectively, also write to a similar effect. The latter paper adds that the manner in which the Act has been passed shows clearly enough that the interests of the country will continue to suffer in the Viceroy's Council so long as the number of official and non-official members of that body is unequal. It also finds fault with His Highness the Agha Khan for having given his vote in favour of the measure.

The same.

VII.—General Administration,

(*d*)—*Education.*

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st March 1904, remarks that the recent Resolution embodying Government's educational policy is, like the Official Secrets Act and the Universities Bill, of a revolutionary character. According to the Resolution, in future Primary Examinations will be conducted by the Heads of Schools, thereby taking away their importance and putting an end to the present spirit of emulation between Schools. Again, the conditions under which grants-in-aid should be made have been rendered so hard that it will now be very difficult for a school to obtain the concession. After remarking that there was no room for partiality or favour under the former system, the Editor goes on to say that in future the very existence of Private Schools will depend entirely on the will of Inspecting Officers. This will have the effect of greatly hampering their freedom, while perhaps not a few Private Schools now working successfully will have to be closed for want of adequate Government help. The Editor concludes by remarking that Government's proposals regarding the Entrance Examination are also open to exception, calculated as they are to decrease the number of students going up for that examination.

The Government of India's Resolution on Education.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st March 1904, complains that the claims of Muhammadans are being grossly overlooked in the Supply and Transport Department (Punjab), their special aptitude for its work notwithstanding. After remarking that the evil is due, not to any dearth of qualified Mussalmans, but to party spirit and the preponderance of Hindus in the De-

Muhammadans in the Supply and Transport Department.

partment, the Editor publishes a statement to show that against 110 Hindu clerks in the Department there are but 10 Mussalmans, and those only in the lower grades.

Native Orderlies to the King-Emperor.

16. The same paper regrets that there is not a single Muhammadan among the Native Orderlies to His Majesty the King-Emperor selected this year. Perhaps no Muhammadan throughout India, adds the Editor, is deserving of the honour.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—2-1-04—70.—C. D.

[Confidential.]

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	Tri-weekly.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	Bi-weekly.			
2	Punjab Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 ,,
	Weekly.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 ,,
6	Punjab Chronicle ...	Moultan ...	M. Baksey & Sons ...	...
	URDU.			
	Daily.			
7	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	3,200 copies.
8	Paisa Akhbar ...	Do. ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	...
9	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 copies.
	Bi-Weekly.			
10	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	...
11	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Muhammad ...	1,500 copies.
	Weekly.			
12	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	500 copies.
13	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 ,,
14	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	...
15	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	1,400 copies.
16	Bharat ...	Sialkot ...	Sundar Lal ...	...
17	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	400 copies.

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	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY - *continued.*			
18	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohi-ud-din ...	1,450 copies.
19	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,721 ,,
20	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	450 ,,
21	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	500 ,,
22	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,570 ,,
23	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	...
24	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Husain ...	150 copies.
25	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 ,,
26	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	30 ,,
27	Khalsa Bahadur ...	Lahore ...	Rajindar Singh ...	500 ,,
28	Koh-i-Nur ...	Do. ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 ,,
29	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 ,,
30	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 ,,
31	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbúb 'Alam ...	13,000 ,,
32	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 ,,
33	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Bishen Singh ...	500 ,,
34	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal ...	650 ,,
35	Public Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Jai Chand ...	600 ,,
36	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 ,,
37	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	3,000 ,,

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	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
38	Panja-i-Faulad ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Din ...	600 copies.
39	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	300 "
40	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ula ...	360 "
41	Do. ...	Rewari ...	Maqbul Husain ...	
42	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Hari Kishen ...	600 copies.
43	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	600 "
44	Singh Sahai Punjab Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Arjan Singh ...	150 "
45	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 "
46	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mrs. Mumtaz Ali ...	240 "
47	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	500 "
48	Umballa Gazette ...	Umballa ...	Badri Parshad ...	...
49	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,960 copies.
50	Wafadar Delhi Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 "
51	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,400 "
52	Zamindár ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	500 "
	TRI-MONTHLY.			
53	Ashraf-ul-Akhbar ...	Delhi ...	Muhammad Zia-ulla Beg	50 copies.
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
54	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 copies.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST MARCH 1903—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
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	MONTHLY.			
55	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 copies.
56	Ishut-ul-Quran ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Chettu ...	...
57	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 copies.
58	Sarin Sabha Journal ...	Hoshiarpur ...	Ganesh Das and Dev Raj	250 "
	ANGLO URDU.			
59	Anglo-Vernacular Paper ...	Gujranwala ...	Muhummad Shuja Ulla...	...
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
60	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—8-4-04—70.—C. D.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 18.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB.

Received up to 2nd April 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjas Railway.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th March 1904, publishes a communication from Mulla Abdul Qayyum, Secretary, Central Hedjaz Railway Fund Committee, Hyderabad, who suggests that in order to preclude the possibility of embezzlement, formal committees should be established all over India to raise funds and remit the collections to Turkey. He would require these committees to make the remittances every third or fourth month, and issue repeated reminders to the President of the Fund at Constantinople in case the acknowledgment is delayed. The Mulla then urges the desirability of making the movement more widely known, remarking that thousands of Indian Musalmans have not yet even heard of it. In spite of the Central Committee having already remitted no less than Rs. 85,883 to Constantinople and distributed about 300 sketch maps of the various sections of the proposed line, not a few persons attach greater weight to the adverse remarks made by certain Europeans and persist in believing the project to be a bubble. Some have gone the length of assuring the Nizam that his support of the undertaking will be regarded with disfavour by Government, with the result that not only has the subscription promised by His Highness for the Hedjaz Railway been withheld, but his Government seems unwilling to part with the collections already made from the public. After remarking that the British Government is not so narrow-minded, the writer holds up to ridicule those who would ignore the moral or religious aspect of a question in order to curry favour with "Sahib Bahadurs" to gain worldly ends. But what else, he asks, is to be expected of a people whose moral sense and mental capabilities have been thoroughly blunted?

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 28th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,729	1	9
Small subscriptions ...	...	103	8	0
Total	...	15,832	9	9

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 25th March 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 18th March 1904 ...		990	3	7
Small subscriptions ...	...	354	0	0
Total	...	1,344	3	7
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	15,839	5	7

(*b*)—*Home.*

4. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 24th March 1904, says that, while the Anglo-Indian Press has condemned the recent utterances of Mr. Donald Smeaton, native newspapers are ungrudging in their praise of the same. As to the Editor, he is of opinion that Mr. Smeaton has drawn a very vivid picture of the India of to-day, although he is wrong in saying that the day is not far off when the best intellect of the country will rise in rebellion against Government. India, it need not be pointed out, is wholly powerless to raise a rebellion, intellectual or physical. Government's administrative policy and the Arms Act do not admit of that, while the passing of the Universities Act is calculated to completely fetter Indian intellect. After referring to Mr. Smeaton's suggestion to establish an Indian Parliament, the Editor observes that a country split up by sectional movements and party feeling is the last place for the representative form of government to be introduced. He is of opinion that the best thing to do in the existing circumstances is to pray to God to engender in the hearts of the rulers sympathy and fellow-feeling for the ruled.

Mr. Donald Smeaton on Indian affairs.

III.—NATIVE STATES.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that it is very unlikely that Government, which makes light of criticism by responsible Native newspapers conducted in English, will condescend to take notice of writings in the Vernacular Press. That, however, is no reason why the latter should not discharge their duty towards the public by laying the people's grievances before Government. Indeed, this is the more necessary seeing that, as remarked by a former Secretary of State for India, the Government of this country is a despotic one,—an assertion which was amply borne out by the appointment of Sir David Barr as Resident in Hyderabad in the teeth of almost universal opposition. The writer adds that the officer named, who has already been granted an extension of service for two years contrary to the rules, is about to be allowed to hold his post for another year, for the reason perhaps that during Lord Curzon's absence from India his matured

Hyderabad affairs.

experience will be of service to Lord Ampthill. He further remarks that under Sir David Barr's *régime* the Nizam is no better than a mere taluqdar, and that the question of the Berars, which had been hanging fire for half a century past, has been solved in a way calculated to inflict considerable loss on the State, while, to the great surprise of the Hyderabad public, a European has, for the first time in the history of the State, been appointed a cabinet minister.

VII.—General Administration.

(a)—Judicial.

The administration of justice in India.

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 31st March 1904, writes :—

"The facts published by our esteemed contemporary of the *Hindu* concerning the Salt and Abkari officers seem to indicate that the said officers have decided to complete what is left undone by the Police and the 'convicting' Magistrate. Of course, they are as little to blame as the Police and the aforesaid well-known executive functionary. The smaller the number of detections the darker the frowns of the authorities. The greater the number of convictions the sweeter the smiles of the powers that be. Hence the overcrowding of the jails and the consequent ruin of many reclaimable lives. And as if affairs are not yet sufficiently lively, the system of bounty-fed detections has been introduced into the Salt and Abkari Department with the natural results. It seems to have been taken for granted by those in charge of the business that the less the number of cases reported the greater the offences undetected, so gloomier become the brows of those who have been rewarding them for their zeal. We hope the attention of the Salt Commission will be drawn to the affair."

(h)—Miscellaneous.

Lord Curzon.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 26th March 1904, in the course of an article on the "Partition of Bengal" question, makes the following remarks :—

"We are among those who have tried to give every credit to Lord Curzon where credit was due, and to keep aloof from the tide of indiscriminate condemnation with which his lordship's sayings and doings have been sought to be swamped now and then. * * * Lord Curzon has of late disappointed the people in so many of their earnest expectations, and has set public opinion—at least Native public opinion—so conspicuously at naught, that to pin one's last faith upon 'his sincerity of convictions' is like living upon a forlorn hope. We have no doubt as to His Excellency's sincerity of convictions, but experience has shown that these convictions are often too obstinate—so much so as to make his 'openness to conviction' a thing extremely unreliable. Not to speak of his conduct with regard to the question of University reform and other measures, seeing that His Excellency could declare the agitation of the Dacca and Mymensingh peoples as an artificial and got-up one, after the most patent evidences of its genuineness, what hope can one entertain of his paying due heed to any popular representation? It is possible that, after all, His Excellency may abandon or at least put off the Partition scheme; but if so, it will be in the exercise of his authority as an autocrat, guided by reasons of State policy, rather than out of consideration or respect for the representations of an agitated and alarmed people. It will be the unexpected rather than what may in the usual course of things be hoped for. We ourselves have been often ready to appeal to Lord Curzon's personal sense of right and wrong, but experience has shown us that too much of personal appealing has had the effect of magnifying his sense of self-importance.

Excess of adulation, as has been said, is not good for Jupiter himself, and we are afraid that in Lord Curzon the making of an unexceptionable administrator has been marred by too much importance being attached to his personality, both by the public as well as by himself."

Lord Curzon's appointment as Warden of the Cinque Ports.

8. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 31st March 1904, writes:—

"Lord Curzon succeeds Lord Salisbury as Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. This sinecure post is, as a rule, conferred on men of the highest distinction, who have rendered most distinguished services to the country. Lord Roberts' name was frequently mentioned in the papers as the most likely recipient of the dignity, pointing to the direction in which popular wish and expectation tended. The appointment of our Viceroy, therefore, has been very much in the nature of a surprise. The use of a large and picturesque sea-side 'castle' goes with the Wardenship, and Lord and Lady Curzon are to be congratulated in being presented by a grateful country with such a charming home and retreat. The secret hope that the reactionary and unpopular measures connected with His Excellency's Viceroyalty might be rendered wholly or partially innocuous by the intervention of Parliament vanishes at this fresh token of the vast importance attached in England to his work in India. For, it is his services as ruler of India that have no doubt been considered as entitling him to the distinction conferred on him."

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—8-4-04—70.—K. C. M.

[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 14.]

SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th April 1904.

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[Vol. XVII.] [No. 14.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th April 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The fighting in Thibet.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 5th April 1904, writes:—

"There is no parallel, even in the bloody history of modern Western expansion, to the tragedy in Thibet, the news of which will send a thrill of herror throughout the civilised world. The achievements of the Portuguese and Spaniards in South America pale before this feat of arms in the Holy Land of the Buddhists. The incident may be likened to a champion pugilist pitching into a swarm of street boys foolishly barring his way, and striking right and left, killing a little one at each blow. And any attempt at justifying the 'punishment' of the Lama army would be akin to the prize-fighter pleading in his defence that he could not help destroying the urchins as they obstinately refused to move out of his path and leave the way clear for him. According to the first account of the battle (we were going to say butchery) the fifteen hundred Tibetans—who actually behaved like heroes—allowed themselves to be hemmed in on all sides. Indeed, so far were they originally from harbouring any belicose thoughts, that their advanced bodies did not resist when they were disarmed. That their intentions were nothing but pacific is further indicated by the fact that their Commander himself came into the British camp to request the head of the 'Mission' not to proceed further. All the evidence, in short, tends to show that the Thibetan troops had been sent there not to fight but to offer, so to say, a passive resistance to the further advance of the British.

"But perhaps to practically prove the peaceful nature of the Mission, the British column did not halt and wait for a return of the Thibetans to a more plaint frame of mind. The Lhassa authorities know very well how utterly impotent they are in the face of the British. They labour under no delusions in this respect. They fully realise that British power is like an advancing avalanche, and to stand in its path would only result in self destruction. So, if Colonel Younghusband had only exercised a little more patience, and fixed a few days' time for the impeding horde to depart peacefully, giving out at the same time that at the end of the period of grace he must push on, whatever the consequences, there is ltle doubt that the Thibetans technically opposing him would have been called away. But the irresistibly strong can rarely brook opposition from the weak. It appears to them as a piece of gratuitous impertinence. Fancy a flock of followers of the Lama daring to call on a British force to withdraw? To listen to such impudent summons would lessen the prestige of British name throughout the East. So, quick march! Advance! Any man of the least sympathy and imagination can easily

understand the feeling of the devoted band of Thibetans as the Sikhs and Gurkhas came in touch with them. Here were people who, without reason or rhyme (to their thinking), had trespassed forcibly into their native land, and occupied their forts and villages. Regardless of their passionate wish to have no communication with the outside world, and to let no unbelieving foreigner to intrude into their sacred country, these people were determined to force their way further into the interior. Being made of flesh and blood, and not of unfeeling clay, they were swept off their feet by the storm of patriotic emotion surging in their breasts. In the passion of the moment they forget the terrible destructiveness of modern weapons on the hands of the British. Flinging themselves on the irresistible enemies of their country they self-immolated themselves like moths rushing into the flame. Admitting that the British in self-defence were compelled to open magazine-fire on the men who had rushed into their midst, we can see no way to defend the continuation of the murderous firing after the brave attackers had been accounted for. To keep up the firing after it was obvious that the remaining Thibetans were incapable of offence and defence was unworthy of the British. It is this needless bloodshed—massacring of helpless foes—which would remain for ever as a blot on British arms. The heroic self-destruction of the Thibetans will show how determined they are to prevent the intrusion of foreigners into their country. They will have to yield to superior force and organisation; but the memory of the unequal fight will never be wiped from their minds. We are sure there is no Englishman who will not deplore the occurrence, and feel shocked that matters of high policy should make such human holocausts necessary. Brief particulars of the tragedy are given elsewhere." (These appear under the heading of "The Thibetan Massacre").

2. The following appears in the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 6th April 1904:—

The same.

"No one can read the account of the severe fighting that took place on Thursday last between the Thibetans and the armed detachment under Colonel Younghusband without profoundly regretting that that eventuality has at last been reached.

* * * * * * * *

"The British losses have been few; but those of the enemy have been very heavy. The Thibetan General with the whole of his personal escort and five high Lhassa officials were killed. There is a fear that after the unsparing massacre of hundreds of Thibetans, the peaceful character of Colonel Younghusband's Mission will morally suffer in the eyes of civilized men. And the ill-concealed gratification with which the news has been received by the English and the Anglo-Indian Press will contribute not a little towards it. For 'unholy is the voice of loud thanks giving over slaughtered men.'!"

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th April 1904, writing on the same subject, remarks that the Thibetans are inferior to the British in every respect, and therefore no match for the latter. They outmatch Government only in the matter of obstinacy; and for this they have been taught a severe lesson. The Editor adds that the followers of the Grand Lama value only religious liberty, and that Great Britain can give it them in a larger measure than Russia. On the other hand, Government stands in need more of Thibet than the Thibetans, for with the stationing of a British garrison in the country the entire North-West Frontier of India would, with the exception of Baluchistan, become impregnable. And to remedy this one defect it will be necessary only to see that British influence in Persia is as strong as that of Russia.

The same.

4. The same paper of the 2nd April 1904 acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Funds :—

The Hedjaz Railways.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	15,832	9	9
Small subscriptions	40	12	0
Total ...	15,873	5	9

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

	Rs	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 25th March 1904	1,344	3	7
Small subscriptions	81	3	0
Total ...	1,425	6	7
Add amount remitted to Turkey ...	14,495	2	0
Grand Total ...	15,920	8	7

(*b*)—*Home.*

6. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 2nd April 1904, publishes a communication from "A Political Traveller," who says that the former rulers of India were always solicitous of the welfare of their subjects and respected their rights. They were also ever ready to redress grievances, and afforded the oppressed facilities for laying their complaints before their Sovereign. Now, however, justice seems to have fled from India, and there is no one to listen to the aggrieved, while the prevailing laws have begotten gross dishonesty and made the people the reverse of simple. Again, the Police haul up innocent persons in place of the guilty, and swallow up the property of those whose lives and property it is their duty to protect. Up to recently the people could voice their grievances through the Press, but it would seem that they are about to be deprived ot the service of newspapers also. Government, the guardian of their lives and property, wishes to muzzle its Native subjects and prevent complaints being made even in the columns of newspapers. It should, however, remember that very great tyrants have ruled over India before this, but that while only their evil fame survives them, this country still remains. But, adds the writer, there are persons who regard a bad name in the light of fame. Lord Curzon is preparing to kill "us," and has forged the sword of the Official Secrets Act to strike off the heads of Editors and correspondents. His Excellency has declared more than once that he is solicitous of the welfare of India, but it is to be regretted that his deeds give his words the lie direct. After remarking that famine, plague and sickness have followed in the Viceroy's wake, the writer says that former rulers of this country had the reputation of being truthful. A perusal of the speeches delivered by the present "King"

Lord Curzon.

(Lord Curzon), however, tells a different tale, and one is led to think that when the ruler's deeds do not agree with his words, the less said about the ruler the better. The correspondent used to hear his elders say that the sayings of genii and unclean spirits go by contraries; he had had no opportunity to test the truth of this before Lord Curzon's time. He then deprecates the inclusion of Civil affairs in the amended Official Secrets Act, and says that the Press in India is already wholly powerless, the English having everything their own way. Now and then, says he, newspapers condemn the doings of the savage *Goras*, and asks whether Government wishes to completely silence its Indian slaves.

The same,

7. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th April 1904, under the heading "Lord Curzon on himself. (Communicated):—"

"As was expected, Lord Curzon pronounced a panegyric on himself in closing the so-called Budget Debate in the Supreme Legislative Council on Wednesday. But much of the interest that might otherwise attach to the self-eulogium was discounted by the publication, a short time previously, of resolutions on several subjects the substance of which was recapitulated by His Excellency in the speech. It was accordingly inevitable that a good portion of the oration should be made up of—what Lord Curzon confessed in the speech he regarded as somewhat of a praise to him—platitudes. But whatever might be his personal opinion as to the great virtues of platitudes, one may be pardoned for venturing to doubt the utility or the necessity of platitudinising at considerable and even tedious length in orations full of pompous phrases and lacking in that which alone contributes to their edifying character, *viz.*, 'sweet reasonableness.' His Excellency's argumentative method is amusing, or irritating, as you please. He almost studiedly ignores the criticism levelled against his policy or measures, and when there is an outcry that he acts despotically in contemptuous indifference of public opinion, he re torts that there has been no Government in India which is so responsive to public opinion as his. His Excellency either makes light of or forgets any weight of autho rity against his policy, and insults public opinion by saying that the weight of authority is on his side, not against it. Take the case of the Universities Act. He could bring himself deliberately to say that the majority of leading Indians were in favour of that reactionary legislation. He was contradicted and it was proved that the statement was untrue. How did he show his openness to fact? By ignoring the contradi ction and repeating the original misstatement with added force. In his speech of Wednesday last His Excellency spoke dogmatically, poohpoohing the idea that there is any drain of wealth from India. He spoke in a similar strain in his notable deliverance last year at the Bengal Chamber of Commerce. His Excellency's mistake was pointed out at the time. He was reminded that it was not merely the so-called 'arm-chair critics' that repeated this alleged 'copy-book fallacy,' but that Sir John Shore, Lord Cornwallis, Lord Salisbury, the Duke of Argyll, Lord Northbrook, and a host of other eminent statesmen and administrators, not less and some more experienced than he in Indian affairs, held the opinion which he ridiculed. We do not say that this fact was enough to shut him up, but surely it was such as to demand a full answer from him in vindication of the opposite position he had taken up before he reiterated his contempt for the drain theory in terms of almost no respect for those who honestly differed from him. Yet this is what he did at the last meeting of the Legislative Council. He spoke of the influx of capital into India and the development of certain industries in support of his assertion. Yet he did not deign to take note of the complaint on our side, repeated over and over again, that the development of a country by foreign capital means the enrichment of the people not of the country at all, but of the aliens, and that the so-called development of industries is only on the

part of British exploiters. This is not after all such a palpable economic untruth as to deserve no reply; in the case of Lord Curzon's own country, he very well knows the genesis of the Chamberlain 'raging, tearing propaganda.' Yet when not fortunate England, where public opinion can make Ministers shake in their shoes, but luckless India, where despots rule in a high-handed manner and insult public opinion into the bargain, these antics may be irresponsibly indulged without any fear that the statesman's reputation will come to an end thereby. This is Lord Curzon's favourite method of argumentation and of Government. Instances of the fact may be culled in any number from the speech of Wednesday, but it would at best be a work of supererogation, we believe.

"The 'superior purzon' that he has been throughout his life, Lord Curzon is not the politician to ever err on the side of modesty. The more speeches he makes, the more forcibly does he demonstrate the truth of the *Pioneer's* well-known dictum in the article entitled 'Kaiser or Viceroy,' that his two enemies are his own tongue and the first person singular. Throughout his speech of Wednesday, nothing is more marked than the painful frequency of the first person singular. He speaks of 'my' work of what 'I' have thought and said and done, of what 'I' am going to think and talk and do, as if he had no Council to assist him and to share his responsibility, as if there were no Provincial Governments in India, as if there were not the permanent services to bear the heat and burden of the day, as if no non-official agencies toil hard for the common weal. If India has been passing through a period of recuperation, it could only be during the last five years because of course before that time Lord Curzon was not the 'Czar of India'; if the Army Service are to-day on an effective footing, it is only because he has laboured to make them so since the eventful day when he came out to India; if Education, Police, the Administration of Justice, Railways and Irrigation, &c, etc., were to-day receiving much attention of the Government, it is simply, wholly, exclusively, owing to the supreme wisdom of the late Lord Salisbury in sending him out to India to succeed a number of weak kneed rulers who had not the capacity or the enthusiasm to do their duty properly. In short, so far as Lord Curzon personally is concerned, the Indian schoolboy who according to an old story, replied, in an examination on Geography to the question, "how does the earth go round?" by saying *Sirkar ke ikbal se* (by the prestige or power of the British Government), spoke nothing but the truth. Of course, the fact is quite otherwise. * * * *

8. Commenting on the Viceroy's remarks in his Budget speech regarding Natives and Government service, the same paper writes as follows :—

Natives and Government service.

"Is it not a fact that deliberate steps have been taken in the Punjab to lessen the number of Native District Judges to guard against an 'undue' proportion of natives among Divisional Judges? There are at present three Indian Civilians in the Punjab in charge of districts. Are they in any way inferior to their European brethren in service? Opportunity begets ability. Even in the short reign of Runjeet Singh administrators arose like Sawan Mal, diplomats like Aziz Din, and soldiers like Hari Singh. Our present rulers give us small chance, yet they are sure that natives will never do for higher posts? In one sense His Excellency is right when he says that natives have a larger share in the government of the country than Europeans. They teach the details of their duties to European officers, and do all the heavy work, but the credit is taken by the latter. If Lord Curzon has quoted statistics, those, too, who speak on behalf of educated Indians, have given figures from the Civil Lists and other official publications showing how our claims are being neglected in this respect. How many Indians are there in the higher grades of the Railway, Telegraph, Postal, Accounts and P. W. Departments, controlling power in which if exercised by natives can never cause danger to the peace of the Empire? Why is the Opium Department practically a European preserve? The *Hindu* has recently drawn attention to a state of things in the Salt and Abkari Department which

go to show that the Anglo-Indian and Imperial Anglo-Indian element is being pushed into that Department in a manner hardly surpassed, if equalled, in any other enterprise under the direct or indirect influence of Government Of the 23 Deputy Commissioners and Assistant Commissioners 21 are Europeans and Eurasians, and of the 79 Inspectors 55 belong to the favoured communities. In the higher grades as many as 143 out of 245 appointments are treated as a close preserve for the blessed ones. Our contemporary of the *Hindu* declines to believe that the favoured ones are more competent than the Indian members of the service. 'In most cases they are worse.'"

Military expenditure in India.

9. The *Paisa Akhbár* (Lahore), of the 5th April 1904, says that after a perusal of the financial statement for the past year and of the Budget Estimates for 1904-05 one cannot congratulate Government on its Military Policy, of which the distinguishing feature seems to be a reckless waste of public funds. The Thibet expedition, which Government persists in calling by the milder name of "Mission," has been estimated to cost India no less than 83 lakhs of rupees, although its object being an Imperial concern the expenditure ought to have been borne by the British Exchequer. The Budget for next year also contains an item of Rs. 74,08,900 on account of the increase of pay recently given to the British Garrison in India, and this, it should not be forgotten, is a recurring charge. Again, the Aden and the Seistan Boundary Commissions are to cost this country Rs. 11,29,000 and Rs. 1,61,000 respectively. In short, Government has been increasing its Military expenditure in spite of protests from the public, so much so that during the past four years an increase of 27 per cent. has been effected. The increase in revenue during the same period does not, however, come to more than 12 per cent. And this being so it should not be difficult to form an idea as to the financial prosperity or otherwise of this country.

The National Congress.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th April 1904, remarks that the time has come for the National Congress to turn over a new leaf and reform itself. It concerns itself with important matters of state and ought therefore to be far more generous and large minded than the authorities themselves. It is, however, to be regretted that it is extremely mean and narrow-minded, for which the Bengalis alone are to blame. The Congress should not consent to be led by the Bengalís, for this not only brings discredit on the country and the people, but retards the attainment of the objects the Congress has in view. After condemning its present methods of work, the Editor says that the Congress is an extremely useful assembly to Government. Englishmen cannot claim infallibility, and it is impossible for an alien Government to work without the co-operation of its conquered subjects. Indeed, the absence of this co-operation invariable leads to constant bloodshed, witness the strained relations between the Porte and the Christian residents of Turkey. The Editor then advises the Congress—

(1) to give up its foolish opposition to Government and concern itself with matters in the hands of ordinary civilians;

(2) to leave off politics and "nationalism" and try to improve the financial condition of the people;

(3) to let alone important questions like the Indian Civil Service and the Military expenditure, and devise means to develope trade and industry.

British rule in India.

11. The *Khalsa Sewak* (Amritsar), of the 1st February (received on the 7th April) 1904, refers to the advantages India enjoys under the British Government and says that the present is the best rule the country has ever known.

III.—Native States.

Poonch affairs.

12. The *Gulsár-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th March and the 2nd April 1904, after remarking that British rule is nothing short of a blessing to India, says that certain misguided patriots are in the habit of raising an outcry whenever a Native Chief is deposed or a State is annexed. They should, however, know that Government never interferes with the internal affairs of a State except in case of gross misconduct on the part of its Chief. The Editor then goes on to say that considerable mal-administration has been prevailing in Poonch for the last two years. The oppression of the State officials, he adds, has driven the residents of the Bagh and the Sodhonte Tahsíls to lay their grievances before the Supreme Government. They have submitted to Lord Curzon a memorial signed by 1,269 persons praying His Excellancy to place them under the direct control of the Government of India. In conclusion the Editor refers to some of the grievances mentioned in the memorial,

The same.

13. Commenting on the above the *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1904, remarks that as the *Gulsar-i-Hind* has not published a copy of the memorial said to have been submitted to the Government of India, nothing can be said for certain as to the oppression and tyranny under which the inhabitants of Poonch are alleged to have been groaning for the last two years. Besides, it is strange that the grievances should not have been brought to the notice of the Resident in Kashmir, who is accessible to all, high and low. Perhaps, adds the Editor, that officer, being familiar with the Kashmiris' habit of making a mountain out of a mole-hill, he has declined to take notice of the so-called grievances referred to by the *Gulsar-i-Hind*.

Plague in the Gwalior State.

14. A correspondent of the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd April 1904, writing about the outbreak of plague in Gwalior, reports that the local Doctor's inconsiderate treatment of one Seth Nath Mal has led to the exodus of Mahajans from the town. He adds that it is rumoured in Gwalior that the Doctor promised the Maharaja to bring two or three lakhs of rupees into the State treasury shortly. On hearing of this, the Seth offered to pay the amount from his own pocket provided the people were let alone; but the offer was rejected. Another story is to the effect that the English, who are killing off the residents of British India, have asked the Maharaja to follow their example, for the reason that were he not to do so they would be brought into bad odour owing to people dying in British territory only. The rumour adds that His Highness has been compelled to do the bidding of the English in order to escape the fate which overtook Rana Zalim Singh and the Maharajas of Bhartpur, Panna and Indore. The writer then regrets that none of the Municipal Commissioners should have tried to put down unfounded

rumours like the above and assure the people that the plague administration was intended for the public good alone. He would also remind the Municipality and the Doctor that, as directed by the Government of India, they should not insist on evacuation, &c.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

An alleged scandal in the Arya Samaj.

15. The *Sanatan Dharam Gazette* (Lahore), of the 3rd April 1904, reports that on the occasion of the recent anniversary of the *Gurukul*, a certain Brahman graduate was caught committing a bestial act, and that the news immediately spread throughout India. After remarking that efforts are being made to hush up the matter, the Editor calls upon Lala Munshi Ram to publish the true facts in the *Sat Dharam Pracharak*, adding that the story current in Lahore is calculated to bring the Arya Samaj into discredit.

Religious bigotry in India.

16. The *Taj-ul-Akhbar* (Rawalpindi), of the 2nd April 1904, says that India is having a very bad time of it because of the religious bigotry and party spirit rampant in the country. The followers of a community frequently sacrifice public good on the altar of racial prejudice, under the mistaken impression that this will further the interests of that community. The people should, however, bear in mind that it is next to impossible to draw a line between public and communal interests. Indeed, what is good for the whole country cannot but be so for every community inhabiting it. It therefore behoves all Natives, irrespective of caste and creed, to scrupulously abstain from injuring the feelings of their fellow-countrymen in speech or by writing. The Editor then finds fault with one Dharam Pal, a Muhammadan convert to the Arya religion, for bringing out a book entitled Tark-i-Islam, and says that the publication has raised a storm of indignation among the Prophet's followers. He concludes by reporting that the Mussalman residents of Delhi recently held a meeting to consider the advisability of moving the law against Dharam Pal.

VI—Legislative.

The Universities Act.

17. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 26th March (received on the 7th April) 1904, says that the passing of the Universities Act is calculated to put an end to higher education in the country. Enhanced fees, the Editor is afraid, will have the effect of shutting the doors of colleges in the face of poor students, while the rich are not likely to belie their nature by taking more kindly to learning than heretofore. He adds that the new law is also calculated to prevent the introduction of Western arts and industries into the country.

VII—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Government of India's Resolution on Education.

18. The *Sialkot Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st April 1904, writing about the Government of India's recent Resolution on Education, says that a careful reading of the document will show that Natives, who know their own interests best, will henceforth have no hand in the education of their youth. The Editor takes exception to the proposal to abolish Competitive Exami-

nations for filling certain posts under Government, remarking that the change will not only be an act of injustice, but will enable officers of a certain type to show undue favour to their relations or to particular communities. After remarking that the above tests serve a useful purpose and that competition-wallas generally make able and honest officers, he says that the method proposed in the Resolution of securing recruits for Government service is calculated to prove injurious to the interests of the children of the soil. Of course Eurasians, who have long been demanding posts for which they have not qualified themselves, will assuredly come in for a larger share of the official loaves and fishes under the new arrangement. Had Competitive Examinations been allowed to continue, the above gentlemen would have been obliged to work to secure higher posts in the public service, whereas now Government can do a great deal for them. The Editor further remarks that the fact that the Resolution lays great stress on primary education would show that henceforth less attention is to be paid to secondary education. He admits the great importance of the former, but contends that the latter is no whit less important.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

A suggestion to abolish the Salt Tax and reduce the duty on cotton.

19. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 31st March 1904, regrets that although the financial statement for the past year showed a large surplus, Government has not considered it expedient to abolish any of the numerous taxes imposed upon the people. After stating that, according to the present forecasts, accumulated surpluses at the end of three years will come to over Rs. 1,00,000, the Editor remarks that Government is not justified in recovering from the people more money than its requirements demand. He adds that some of the taxes levied by Government were originally declared to be only temporary, but have since been made permanent. The duty on salt is one of these, and the people have the Government of India's written promise that it would be abolished at some " suitable time." But although no less than twenty years have passed since the promise was given and although during this period that " suitable time " has occurred more than once, Government is as far from keeping its word as ever. At all events, now that it has a large surplus in hand it should lose no time in abolishing the tax in question, and reducing the duty on cotton which was imposed only to please Lancashire weavers.

What draws Englishmen to India ?

20. The same paper of the 5th April 1904, remarks that, in spite of what the Viceroy said at the farewell banquet given by him in honour of Sir Thomas Raleigh and certain other retiring officers, very few persons will believe that the majority of Englishmen are not drawn to India by handsome salaries. British soldiers in this country have been given an increase of pay from the 1st instant, which throws a new burden of Rs. 75,00,000 on the Indian Exchequer. This, the Editor contends, can only mean that the soldiers aforesaid decline to stay in India on less pay. Besides, even Lord Curzon will not deny that the connection between India and England began with trade, and that the maintenance of the connection by the latter is primarily for her own advantage.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—15-4-04—70.—C. D.

(a) [illegible]
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(b) [illegible]
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[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 16th April 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The fighting in Tibet.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 9th April 1904, after referring to the *Tribune's* remarks about the fighting in Tibet (paragraph 1 of Selections No. 14), says that Buddha having been born in India and the Tibetans being followers of the religion founded by him, that paper could not have written on the subject otherwise than it has done. It should, however, remember that its duty does not consist simply in showing sympathy with Buddhists, and that it has several other and far more important obligations to discharge. Again, it should never forget that it is Government and not the Grand Lama from whom the people of this country can receive help in raising themselves socially and politically. The Editor, therefore, considers it unwise to condemn Government on the score of such of its acts as involve a little violence only to "our" sentiments.

The same.

2. The same paper, of the 11th April 1904, states that the Government of Tibet is in the hands of three Lamas and that one of them, Tara Nath, holds sway over North Mongolia. This part of Tibet is said to be greatly under Russian influence on account of one of Tara Nath's brothers holding a respectable post in the Russian Foreign Office. If this is so, there will, sooner or later, be a terrible rising in the interior of Tibet, and the recent fighting is likely to prove only the first incident of a long war. The Editor cannot fix a precise time for the struggle, but is of opinion that as soon as she has settled her quarrel with Japan, Russia will turn her attention to Tibet. He then goes on to say that the entire Northern Frontier of India being exposed, Bengalee newspapers and politicions are ill-advised in urging retrenchments in the Military expenditure of the country. They should, he adds, bear in mind that if baulked of its prey in Tibet, Russian diplomacy will be certain to turn its attention to India.

3. The same paper, of the 13th April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	15,873	5	9
Small subscriptions	2	11	6
Total ...	15,876	1	3

(*b*)—*Home.*

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th April 1904, says that Lord Curzon's Budget speech is a reflex of his policy and thought, and that in its course His Excellency not only extolled his own work but went out of his way to adversely criticise the work of his predecessors in office. The confusion and chaos, however, he attributes to previous Governments fade away into thin air in the light of facts, which also fail to prove the necessity for the reforms he advocates and declares to be for the good of the country. As to his Lordship's claim that he is a peaceful ruler, in support whereof he says that no frontier expedition has been undertaken during his tenure of office, it is only necessary to refer to the so-called Tibet Mission to demolish that claim. Indeed, whatever views the Viceroy himself might hold about his public acts, not a few of them—such as the formation of the North-West Frontier Province, the passing of the Universities and the Official Secrets Acts and the proposed dismemberment of Bengal—evoked almost universal opposition. The Editor then takes exception to that part of the above speech wherein Lord Curzon makes a contemptuous reference to the political aspirations of Natives and passes the dictum that the highest civil posts in the country should as a general rule be held by Englishmen alone.

Lord Curzon.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 9th April 1904, after referring to John Stuart Mill's remarks about the position of a conquered people, says that subjection to foreign rule is not as bad as that philosopher seems to think. At all events, the Natives of India know that they are destined to remain a conquered people, and their only desire is that John Bill should rule over them in a "grandmotherly" spirit. The Editor adds that during the last two years the screws of the administrative machinery in India have been greatly tightened, and that British philanthrophy, which is always so much in evidence everywhere else, seems to have become almost extinct in the Indian Civilian. He would like to know if any civilised Government has ever passed laws in utter disregard of the wants—present and future—of its subjects and calculated to endanger the "social rights" of the latter.

Government and the people.

6. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st April 1904, referring to Sir Donald Smeaton's suggestion to establish an Indian Parliament (*vide* paragraph 4 of Selections No. 13), says that the proposal is wholly

Sir Donald Smeaton on Indian affairs.

premature. Indeed the adoption of the several views expressed in his speech would be positively injurious to India, and those young Natives who subscribe to such views are arresting the progress of their country. After remarking that Government should not confound the opinions of rash "Young India" with the feelings of the general public, the Editor strongly exhorts his fellow-countrymen to prove by words as well as deeds that they are thoroughly loyal to Government. He also advises them never to adversely criticise official measures, leaving the task to Englishmen, who alone can afford to do so with impunity.

The late Sir Syad Ahmad Khan and politics.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 13th April 1904, says that in its review of the Life of *Sir Syad Ahmad Khan*, by Maulvi Altaf Husain, *Hali*, the *Zamana* remarks that the biographer's ignorance of English has stood in the way of his doing justice to the work, as is shown by his not giving prominence to some of the salient points in Sir Syad's life. For instance, adds that paper, the Maulvi has not pointed out that political rather than social or religious reform was always the guiding principle of the deceased Knight of Aligarh, and that his opposition to the National Congress has tended to widen the gulf between Hindus and Muhammadans. The Editor deffers with the *Zamana* and says that a careful study of the work of Sir Syad will conclusively prove that all his efforts were directed solely to the social and religious betterment of his community, although it is true that such elevation is followed by political regeneration. After referring to some of the works of the founder of the Aligarh College in support of his contention and remarking that the latter's "Causes of the Indian Mutiny" was written with the sole object of refuting the unfounded charges preferred against Muhammadans in connection with the deplorable events of 1857, he says that the strained relations between the two great communities inhabiting India existed long before the National Congress came into being. The Editor deprecates the evil and adds that political agitation in India has had effects the reverse of satisfactory. He ascribes the passing of the Universities and the Official Secrets Act to this agitation.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Entering the precincts of the Golden Temple with shoes on.

8. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 8th April 1904, reports that on the evening of the 5th instant a certain European gentleman and his wife went to see the Golden Temple. The police constable on duty showed them the rules requiring visitors to take off their shoes before entering the precincts of the Temple; but the couple paid no heed to these and the lady went in with her shoes on. The omission was noticed at the Darshani Deohri, and on an outcry being raised the Sahib and his wife retraced their steps. The former then went to the Kotwali to report the incident, giving his name as Major Smith, of the 5th Cavalry Regiment, stationed at Montgomery (*sic*). He is also said to have seen the Deputy Commissioner and represented to the latter that the occurrence constituted a gross insult to Mrs. Smith, quite forgetting that their own conduct was calculated to wound the feelings of lakhs of Hindus. After remarking that the wives of far more highly-placed officers and even Viceroys going to the Temple have had to take off their shoes, the Editor reports that the incident has roused great indignation in Amritsar. He would

request Mr. Maclagan to convene a public meeting near the Clock Tower in order to reassure the public, as also to take steps to make such occurrences impossible.

The same.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 11th April 1904, writing on the same subject, finds fault with Major Smith for having set at naught rules to which even Viceroys and Members of the Royal family have gladly conformed. The occurrence, adds the Editor, goes to show that Englishmen coming out to India do not care to mix with Natives and acquaint themselves with the habits and sentiments of the latter.

The same.

10. The *Akhbár-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 11th April 1904, regrets that highly placed officers like the Major should, through ignorance, be guilty of conduct calculated to lead to serious consequences.

The same.

11. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 12th April 1904, also disapproves of Major Smith's conduct.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets and the Universities Acts.

12. A correspondent, writing to the *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 9th April 1904, says that the passing of the new Official Secrets and the Universities Acts has caused great uneasiness in the country. The impression has got abroad that the inclusion in the former Act of the section relating to Native States is intended to prevent the ventilation of the grievances of their subjects in the Press. The writer for one cannot believe for a moment that the measure aims at the suppression of the just complaints of the subjects of a State against a tyrannical ruler. Should it, however, turn out to be so, the public should rest satisfied that some of the successors of Lord Curzon will be certain to remedy the evil by repealing the section in question. The correspondent then goes on on to say that it is an ill wind that blows nobody good and that it is quite possible that the much maligned Universities Act may prove beneficial to the country by making the people take more kinkly to technical education. He admits that the Act places higher education beyond the reach of poor people; but they could study privately and thereby enable themselves to earn an independent living.

The Official Secrets Act.

13. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th April 1904, publishes a cartoon in which Government is seen warning Editors and others never to divulge official secrets.

VII.—General Administration.

(*e*). *Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Agricultural Banks.

14. One Rashid Ahmad, writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 9th April 1904, suggests that as the various exhibitions and fairs held by Government serve no useful purpose, they should be discontinued, and the money

spent on them should be utilised for establishing agricultural banks in the country. The correspondent adds that these banks will bring about an improvement in the present wretched condition of the *samindars*, and prevent that section of the population from committing crime which poverty now obliges them to resort to.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

A bogus Persian Prince.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th April 1904, publishes a communication from one Agha Sanjjar of Tehran warning Native Chiefs to be on their guard against a certain native of Persia, who is at present in India and who gives himself out to be Prince Motamid-ud-Daulah and a son-in-law of the Shah. Some time back the impostor paid a visit to Rampur, but on his identity being discovered he made himself scarce and has not been heard of since.

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Nil.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 23rd April 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st April 1904, writes:—

"Moral and ethical considerations should have no weight in questions of Imperial policy. Nakedly put, this is the principle which both sides in Parliament follow. The difference between the Liberals and Conservatives (to use the old time-honoured designations) in this respect is outward and not real. While the former make a show of acting up to righteous sentiments, the latter cynically put them aside in dealing with inferior races in connection with high Imperial schemes. The Tibetans are weak and helpless from a military point of view. It is necessary that they should be taught to feel greater respect for the might of Britain than that of Russia. This is the golden opportunity to inculcate this lesson. And no conceivable risk can attend the demonstration. So no consideration of pity or clemency will move the Government in accomplishing its peaceful mission in Tibet. That hapless country is like an earthen pipkin between two metal pots, and it must be smashed into pieces. The occupation of Lhasa, and the dictating of British terms to the trembling Dalai Lama himself, is no longer an unlikely contingency. The argument that Lhasa was only 300 miles from our boundary proved most effective in disarming opposition in England to the treating of the Lamas with ruthless severity for having listened to Russian overtures. But the crossing of a part of these 300 miles is taxing our resources almost to the utmost. Had Sikkim and Nepal not given us every assistance possible in men and animals, we would have encountered far greater difficulties. A Polar Expedition would not be more arduous than a military advance across the Himalayas. Yet the mare's nest hunters of Lord Curzon's Government imagined that Russia was intriguing with Tibet with a view to making a short cut (of 300 miles) straught to Calcutta! And to make *this* scheme abortive lakhs of rupees are being spent and hundreds of Tibetans massacred. A Pathan Emperor of India once sent a lakh of sowars over the Himalayas, across Tibet, to conquer China. The Lamas might say that the Emperor's Viziers have taken birth again as Lord Curzon's advisers."

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 18th April 1904, remarks that it would appear that a large number of British statesmen were opposed to the despatch of the Tibet Expedition and absolve the Tibetans of all blame. One of this noble band is Sir Henry Cotton, whose revered name is not

unfamiliar to the ears of educated Natives. Only recently he as well as Messrs. Smith, Law and Schwan, Sir Wilfred Lawson and Mr. Frederick Harison made speeches at a certain banquet condemning the conduct of Lord Curzon's Government in sending the expedition to Tibet. Sir Henry, adds the Editor, is also discussing the subject in newpapers and has had to say a good deal against the Government of India. And most probably it was to counteract the effects of his writings that Messrs. Brodrick and Balfour found it necessary to sing the Viceroy's praises. At all events, it is clear that the Government of India has come in for some adverse criticism from the British public in connection with the despatch of the Expedition. Whatever Government's supporters may say in its defence, the opposing party questions its right to forcibly enter the country of a poor, weak and peaceful neighbour.

3. Munshi Aziz Ahmad of Glasgow writes as follows to the *Watan* (Lahore), of the 22nd April 1904:—

The Russo-Japanese War.

"The Russo-Japanese War:—If Japan comes out with flying colours an auspicious day will dawn for Asia. Japan and Turkey should enter into a friendly alliance: Russia is the mortal enemy of both. There is every hope of their remaining friends and no fear of their turning rivals. After the war is over the Press should lay stress on my suggestion. In case victory rests with Japan she will take possession of Korea and Manchuria, Russia retaining the Saghalien Island and the opposite Coast Province of which Vlodivostock is the capital. There will be another war ten years hence (*i.e.* in 1915) at the conclusion of which Russia will be driven out of Asia or Siberia, while Turkistan, Persia, Arabia and Africa will come under the rule of Turkey * * * In case Russia proves victorious the salvation of Asia will become an impossibility. But the Americans and the English will not let Japan be beaten."

4. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th April 1904, remarks that the state of affairs in the Near East leaves no room for doubt that a great war is shortly to break out in that part of Europe. The Bulgarian question has assumed a very serious aspect, while the embroilment of her ally in a war in the Far East seems to have prompted Austria to secure the military control of Macedonia. And in case the Turkish forces march on Bulgaria, their advance will be certain to be opposed by Austria. The Porte, however, is not ignorant of the danger, and has accordingly issued orders to its Asiatic forces to hold themselves in readiness. In short, adds the Editor, affairs in the Far and Near East potend a world-wide war.

Imminence of war in the Near East.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 16th and 18th April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	15,876	1	3
Small subscriptions	12	7	0
Total ...	15,888	8	3

6. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th and 22nd April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 1st April 1904	...	1,425	6	7
Small subscriptions ...	...	236	9	6
Total	...	1,662	0	1
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	16,157	2	1

7. The *Tehsib-i-Niswan* (Lahore), of the 16th April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	118	14	0
Small subscriptions ...	...	36	0	6
Total	...	154	14	6

(*b*)—*Home.*

8. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 16th April 1904, remarks that Lord Curzon is a very great speaker, and that no one can approach him in point of fluency. His Excellency has silenced a speaker like Mr. Gokhale, and passed the Official Secrets and Universities Acts in spite of the objections raised by the latter. Again, in his recent Budget speech he belauded himself to the skies, beating even Oriental poets in the matter of exaggeration. On this occasion he also damned his predecessors with faint praise, and, notwithstanding the despatch of his "Mission" to Tibet, indulged in the boast that not a single expedition had been undertaken during his time. The Viceroy next pointed out with evident satisfaction that the objections raised against the formation of the North-West Frontier Province were silenced as soon as the fact had been accomplished. His Lordship, adds the Editor, should never forget that the Native public are not in the habit of keeping up their agitation against a measure after it has become law. Besides, when officers like Sir Mackworth Young and Mr. Thorburn could not obtain a hearing, theirs would assuredly have been a cry in the wilderness. The Editor then goes on to say that Lord Curzon is the strongest Viceroy that has ever come out to India, and that during his *régimé* it has been impressed on Native Princes and others that they are the subjects, not of the King-Emperor, but of His Majesty's servant and representative in this country.

Lord Curzon.

9. The *Sadik-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th April 1904, writing about Lord Curzon's approaching departure from India prays God to work a change in His Excellency's present attitude towards the children of the soil.

The same.

The Editor adds that it was declared by the Viceroy more than once that he wished to take the people into his confidence, and that this had the effect of creating an impression that during his *régimé* Natives would not starve and would not meet their death at the hands of British soldiers. After remarking that the expectation has not been realised, he takes exception to Lord Curzon's statement in his Budget speech that all posts of responsibility in the country's public service must be filled by Englishmen.

Government and Muhammadans.

10. A correspondent of the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), dated the 16th April 1904, after stating that England's relations with Muhammadan kingdoms have always been friendly, remarks that Government's treatment of Indian Musalmans is characterised by a sympathy which no nation has ever shown for its conquered subjects. It is no small thing, he adds, that Government should interest itself in the education of the Prophet's followers and show them favour in every other respect. His co-religionists are sensible of all this, and can never prove ungrateful to their benefactor, the Government.

Government and the people.

11. A correspondent writing to the same paper, of the 18th April 1904, remarks that it is certain interested parties who have brought about the war in the Far East, and that when Japan has been crushed and Russia lies prostrate, Germany, France and England will proceed to partition China, the English claiming the largest share. He then goes on to say that when the British Lion was courting India he made a great show of love for her; but that after gaining her hand he began to use her cruelly. There was a time, adds the Editor, when a section of British statesmen advocated the offering to Natives of facilities for learning Western arts and sciences. Now, however, all this has been changed; and Congress demands and the Poona murders of 1897 have been taken advantage of to pass the Universities Act. The correspondent concludes by promising to revert to the subject at some future time.

The same.

12. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 8th (received on the 22nd) April 1904, remarks that even during the present time, let alone by-gone ages, no country, with the exception of France and the United States, is as anxious to consult the wishes of its subjects as Great Britain. And even the first-named two countries do not treat their conquered subjects in the considerate manner which characterises the British Government's treatment of the Natives of India. The Editor further remarks that there existed no public opinion in this country before the advent of British rule, and that Government makes a point of inviting criticism on every Bill. He cannot deny that at times the Viceroy and the official members of his Legislative Council are too self-willed to listen to the public, as has been the case in connection with the Official Secrets and the Universities Acts. He also admits that the Native members of the Council are often only too prone to agree with whatever may fall from the lips of their European colleagues. Government's mode of administration, however, he contends, is not to blame for this state of affairs. The Editor then adds that the reason why British rule in India is daily gaining in

strength is that it makes no invidious distinction between the rulers and the ruled. He is, therefore, of opinion that his fellow-countrymen should feel thankful for this, and pray for the permanence of the present *régime*.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets and Universities Acts.

13. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 15th April 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the Official Secrets Act will finally lead to the establishment of personal rule in India, and that the more useful it proves to the administration, which it is certain to do, the more largely will it be added to. It would also put an end to the pernicious liberty of the Press and make things follow their natural course. After remarking that the Russo-Japanese War has been brought about by newspapers, the correspondent observes that the Universities Act is also calculated to put down several evils which are now working the ruin of India.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

Natives and High Court Judgeships.

14. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th April 1904, regrets that Justices Bhashyan Ayangar and Amir Ali of the Madras and the Calcutta High Courts respectively have been succeeded by Europeans, and that a similar arrangement has been made in place of Mr. Justice Tyebji on his recently going on leave. This, adds the Editor, is not justice but favouritism, and it disproves Lord Curzon's declaration in his Budget Speech, that there has been a steady increase in the employment of Natives under Government. He says that if the present state of affairs continues there will before long be not a single Muhammadan, and for the matter of that any Native, Judge in any of the High Courts in India.

The Administration of Justice in India.

15. In the course of a paragraph discussing the prosecution of some *Zamindars* of Sangramgarh in connection with the case known as the "Sangramgarh Shooting Case," the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 23rd April 1904, makes the following remarks:—

"The liberty of no man is safe in a country where there is no responsible Government. And in a country where men of light and leading can be kept in Government surveillance for years without trial, and can be set upon by Government and driven from post to pillar on baseless charges at the expense of the Indian tax-payer; in a country where respectable *Zamindars* can be kicked and cuffed with impunity in a public place in broad daylight by a hundred policemen headed by the Kotwal, and an exalted personage like His Holiness the Raja of Puri can be hunted out from his *senana* and publicly insulted at the instance of a District Magistrate and the District Magistrate is punished with a promotion—in such a country one has every right to doubt the existence of a Government responsible in the true and complete sense of the word."

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Khalsa College, Amritsar.

16. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th April 1904, writing about the recent Sikh Conference says that the financial position of the Khalsa College has been placed on a sound basis through the liberality of Native Chiefs

and the Lieutenant-Governor's keen interest in the welfare of the institution. After referring to the donations made or promised on the occasion the Editor says that no other denominational college in the country has been the recipient of such generous support. In spite of his life-long efforts the late Sir Syed Ahmad Khan could not collect more than eight or nine lakhs of rupees for the institution at Aligarh, while the local Arya College, although it has a rich community at its back, has only about Rs. 4,00,000 to its credit. It is possible that part of the subscriptions promised at the Conference may not be realised, or that in some cases, *e.g.*, in that of Patiala, only the interest due on the donation money may be paid, still the Khalsa College deserves to be congratulated on its prospects, while its dream of expanding into a Sikh University is now nearer realisation than was the case before. The Editor concludes by expressing the hope that by reaping the advantages of English education the Sikhs will prove a blessing to the country.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The fighting in Tibet.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd April 1904, writing about the recent fighting in Tibet, praises Government's humanity in directing the medical officers with the Mission to tend the wounded Tibetans.

The Russo-Japanese War.

2. A correspondent writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 27th April 1904, says that the Russo-Japanese War threatens to embroil the whole of Europe and Asia. It is true that Japan has achieved a few successes at the outset; but the advantage is not likely to last long, seeing that her enemy's military resources are practically unlimited and the latter has greater experience of war. At all events, before a pitched battle has been fought, it is difficult to prophesy. After approving of Great Britain's attitude in regard to the war, the writer says that Russian aggression is responsible for the struggle. He then refers to the Moscovite designs on Tibet, and says that Japan's defeat at the hands of Russia being likely to prove injurious to the interests of India, the combatants should be separated before it is too late.

The Hedjaz Railway.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd April 1904, acknowledges the following subscription towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged ...	15,888	8	3
Small subscriptions	23	0	0
Total ...	15,911	8	3

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon.

4. In the course of an article on "Lord Curzon (1899—1904)" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 28th April 1904, makes the following remarks :—

"Lord Curzon came to India with a high reputation for courage, energy, and intellectual enquipment of a high order. Before his appointment to succeed Lord Elgin he had not held any high office or office of importance anywhere in the British Empire. A Parliamentary Under-Secretaryship or a Private Secretaryship to some leading statesman or Minister is never sufficient to enable a man to lay claim to any administrative experience or capacity for executive work needing display of energy, resourcefulness, and initiative of a high character. Lord Curzon had been Private Secretary to Lord Salisbury, and Under-Secretary of State for India and Under-Secretary of State in the Foreign Department, before he was appointed to the supreme charge of the Government of this country. He has been the youngest Englishman entrusted with the Viceroyalty of India, barring perhaps his great predecessor Lord Dalhousie. His Parliamentary career extending over 8 or ten years did not bring him much distinction, nor did it go any way to show that he was possessed of ability of an exceptionally high order. The Indian Viceroyalty was offered to him because it is well known that that office is now never accepted by any British statesman of even second rank, to say nothing of men in the first rank of British public life. * * * *

"He came to India with supreme faith in himself and with a conviction that he had a mission. He had confidence in his own great ability and a full knowledge of the ways and means of keeping himself and his work before the British public. He knew that after his five years in India he had to go back to public life, and he was anxious not to lose touch with the English publicists. Shortly after his appointment to India a dinner was given in his honour and the speach that he made on that occasion showed how earnest he was, and how keenly he felt that a great and a scared mission awaited him in India. An eloquent speaker, he made a good impression by his very first speach, although there were not wanting men who hesitated to endorse the general verdict and who were reminded of the speeches and writings of Lord Lytton.

"On arrival in India Lord Curzon began his work with long and eloquent speeches. The purport of all these speeches was at the same time endorsed and eulogised in the English Press. Whatever he said or wrote in India was echoed in the columns of several British newspapers who vied with each other in showering encomiums on their favourite. The purport of these speeches was that every department of the administration in India needed overhauling, and that Lord Curzon was *the* man wanted to do this overhauling satisfactorily and well. Everything that Lord Curzon said or wrote gave one the impression that under his predecessors India had just managed to drag itself along, and that sweeping changes were required in every direction before things could be said to be in a satisfactory condition. The newspapers in England who had seldom, if ever, noticed Indian affairs in any reasonable detail were not long to discover great and serious shortcomings in every direction, and they echoed the sentiment that the young British ex-Under-Secretary of State, the pupil of Benjamin Jowett, the brilliant alumnus of Balliol, the young man whose administration of and faith in Imperialism was equalled only by his unwavering confidence in himself, was the man required to set things right in this country. A year or two after his arrival in India Lord Curzon announced that he had made out a list of 12 important matters to which he said he would devote his attention during his term of office. From the manner in which he took up everything it was clear that he did not feel that his was the usual five years' term. The desire to crowd together in five years work that could not by any human possibility be accomplished in twelve or even twenty took strong possession of Lord Curzon, and it is due to this that after 5½ years he has left India no better, if not worse, than it was when he took over charge in 1898.

"Before Lord Curzon came to India a reactionary policy, the object of which was to undo what had been done by years of British beneficence under the auspices of great statesmen and administrators, had been inaugurated in this country. The leading feature of this policy is that everything in the world is for the benefit of the white man, and that the brown man and the black man are all made for the service of the white man. Applied more particularly to India, this policy means that everything in this country that is worth having should be held by the white man, and that the native of India should not be given any rights or privileges in his own country except such as can be conceded to him without inconveniencing the white man in any way. The auothors and advocates of this policy hold that if the solemn pledges given by British Sovereigns and statesmen stand in the way of the development of this policy, they should all be put on one side and ignored so far as practical politics are concerned.

* * * * * * *

"When Lord Curzon came to India his Imperialism, which was only another name for the policy of reaction in a gilded form, lent great impetus to that policy. It is felt everywhere among our countrymen of all classes that Lord Curzon's five years in India have attempted to undo the good work initiated by Lord Ripon. Lord Ripon's intention was to give the native of India as much voice in the management of his own affairs as could possibly be conceded to him; whilst Lord Curzon has worked with his whole heart and soul to see that as little as possible is given to the native of India. Lord Ripon delighted in the growth and development of the educated Indians as a class, and he did everything that lay in his power to afford suitable scope for their ability and capacity. Lord Dufferin held the reins tight and was reluctant to extend the sphere of the rights and responsibilities of educated Indians. Lord Lansdowne made no secret of his desire to restrict the sphere in question as much as he could. Lord Elgin by his supineness and indifference allowed the Anglo-Indian rulers of the land to make the life of the educated native a misery to him. In Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty things have been so managed as to make the native of India, to all practical intents and purposes, a cipher and a nonentity in his own country. Lord Curzon is undoubtedly possessed of talents of a high order, but to the misfortune of this country those talents have been used in the highest possible degree to secure the successful accomplishment of the objects of the reactionary policy referred to by us. Our countrymen have admired Lord Curzon's ability, his eloquence, and his capacity for work. But they know that all these great gifts of his have been employed in working them to harm. Local Self-Government has been emasculated, the control of education has been taken away entirely from the hands of the people, the various departments of the public service have been so reorganised as to make it impossible for a native of India to attain to positions of trust and responsibility, and in some parts of India at any rate it has been made impossible for large and important sections of His Majesty's subjects to acquire any landed property, and Muhammadans have been set against the Hindus. In fact all the forces of reaction have been allowed full play during the past five years, and this is due very largely to Lord Curzon."

5. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 25th April 1904, remarks that in point of ability Lord Curzon is one of the chosen few, and that the Ministry which sent him out to India is highly satisfied with his work in this country. There is, however, a difference of opinion as to whether he has been faithful in the discharge of his duty towards the children of the soil. Some hold that His Excellency has done his utmost to benefit the people, while others are of opinion that he has thrown back the country's progress for centuries. The Editor subscribes to neither view, and contends that the mistakes committed

The same.

by the departing Viceroy have not been intentional. He then refers to the important measures undertaken during Lord Curzon's time, and says that those beneficial to the people outnumber the others. In conclusion, he praises His Excellency's thoroughness and great capacity for work.

Natives and Politics.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th April 1904, says that in his Budget Speech Lord Curzon expressed sympathy with those Natives who exert themselves to promote national union. At the same time, however, His Excellency declared his conviction that dabbling in politics could never prove the salvation of India. The Editor is of opinion that the position taken up by the Viceroy is untenable, and he contends that the people of a country can never promote national union while remaining indifferent to politics. The absence of this union in India in pre-British days, he says, was due solely to the fact that the people did not then concern themselves with politics. On the other hand, the existence of corporate national life in every European Country is traceable directly to the people interesting themselves in political matters. At all events, this is the only means whereby Natives of all classes—differing as they do in religion, language, &c.—could be united. The Editor further remarks that he is not prepared to admit that his fellow-countrymen are as yet unfit to discuss politics, and repudiates the assertion frequently made by a class of British statesmen that Western Education undermines the Native's loyalty to Government.

VII—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The plague.

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 22nd April 1904, reports that in reply to a question recently asked in the House of Commons, Mr. Broderick enumerated the measures which, he alleged, the Government of India had adopted to combat the plague. Facts, however, do not support the Secretary of State, none of the measures referred to by him being actually in force anywhere. The only thing that Government now does towards the suppression of the disease is to arrange for the inoculation of those willing to undergo the operation. The Editor then regrets that while the plague is claiming thousands of victims daily, efforts should be made to lull the British public into a sense of false security by assuring them that nothing was being neglected to stamp out the disease. He would like to know what Lord Curzon's Government has done during the past five years to put down the scourge, and remarks that it is significant that there was no mention of plague in His Excellency's lengthy Budget Speech. The Government of India, he further remarks, can find money to increase the British soldier's pay and send an expedition to Tibet, not to speak of making additions to its Reserve Fund, but will not set apart a reasonable amount to combat the plague.

The same.

8. The same paper of the 23rd April 1904, remarks that the *Civil and Military Gazette* is wrong in holding the ignorant among the population of the Punjab entirely responsible for the appalling increase in deaths from

plague in the Province. That paper should never forget that the deplorable Malkowal mishap has had the effect of making even the educated Punjabi, let alone his less enlightened brother, regard Government's plague measures, inoculation in particular, with suspicion. The Editor then goes on to say that Government's plague policy has always been open to objection: at first it was marked by undue and irksome restrictions, whereas extreme indifference is its present distinguishing feature. The real fact, he adds, is that Government seems loth to spend on the stamping out of the disease the large sum of money which the magnitude of the task demands. In conclusion, he remarks that inoculation, disinfection, and evacuation, the three effective means of combating the plague, do not receive from the authorities the attention they deserve.

The same.

9. The same paper reports that of the 46,000 deaths from plague during the week ending the 9th April, no less than 23,000 took place in the Punjab alone, and that not a single district or tahsil in the whole Province is free from the disease. It would seem, adds the Editor, that the soil of the Punjab is, to the great misfortune of its inhabitants, peculiarly suited for the plague bacillii to thrive in. The fact that in 1615 also, when the epidemic broke out in India for the first time, it raged most virulently in this part of the country, lends strength to the Editor's surmise. He then regrets that the present Government of India should be as powerless to put down the scourge as were its predecessors of the 17th century.

Non-Christians and Government Service.

10. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 23rd April 1904, says that in the course of the final debate on the Universities Bill it was made clear by the official members of the Viceroy's Council that Government Schools and Colleges had been established to supply good clerks, &c., and not to raise the people in the scale of civilisation. This, adds the Editor, was exactly the opinion of the "old fashioned" Natives who flourished at the time of the introduction of English education into India. Now, however, that Eurasians and Native Christians are to be counted by the lakh, other sections of the population cannot be allowed to continue to hold the posts hitherto filled by them. Indeed, were this not done, those whose fathers or mothers claim descent from Europeans would have to face starvation. After remarking that Government is constrained to give Eurasians, &c., preference to non-Christians, the Editor advises Hindus, Muhammadans and others to learn contentment and place their trust in God.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 7th May 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

Indian pilgrims.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th April 1904, publishes a communication from one Nadir Ali, Vakil of Meerut (now at Jedda), who says that although the Hedjaz has enjoyed immunity this year from an outbreak of some epidemic diseases, Indian pilgrims—some four to five thousand—belonging to the poorest classes are proving a sore burden to their brethren in faith at Jedda. As it is a very hard task to feed so many hungry mouths, numbers of these unfortunate creatures daily fall victims to the pangs of hunger, the cost of their funerals being defrayed by the Turkish Government. After remarking that the Government of India is quite justified in refusing to help the pilgrims, seeing that they have undertaken their pious journey in opposition to the advice given them by the Government, the writer calls upon his co-religionists in India to start a fund for their support, all remittances being made payable to Khan Bahadur Dr. Haji Muhammad Husain, British Vice-Consul at Jedda. He further suggests that as many of the trading vessels leaving Jedda for the Indian Coast have sufficient spare accommodation, they can without any inconvenience undertake the bringing back of the Indian pilgrims.

Commenting on the above, the Editor remarks that if help does not reach them in time, the pilgrims will die of starvation. He then goes on to suggest that, with a view to meeting such exigencies, an Anjuman, with branches in all the principal cities, should be founded in India. It is a pity, adds the Editor, that an important question like the one under reference should have been overlooked and no steps taken to acquaint the Porté as well as the Indian Government with the grievances of the pilgrims.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th and 30th April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,911	8	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	46	0	0
Total	...	15,957	8	3

3. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 29th April 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions:—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 29th April 1904	...	1,662	0	1
Small subscriptions ...	...	46	0	0
Total	...	1,708	0	1
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	16,203	2	1

(*b*)—*Home.*

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd May 1904, says that previous to his appointment to the office of Viceroy, Lord Curzon had held no responsible post in England. He had only been Private Secretary to one or two noted statesmen; but such employment can hardly fit a man to efficiently discharge the onerous duties attaching to the post of Viceroy. Soon after his arrival in India His Lordship raised the cry of reform, and won the people's good-will by holding out to them generous promises. He also snubbed Eurasians for claiming a larger share of the official loaves and fishes, thereby giving the people to understand that he was a just and independent ruler. It is, however, to be regretted that he should have disappointed the children of the soil by declaring in his last Budget Speech that higher posts in the country's public service must be held by Europeans, a declaration which clashes with the late Queen Empress' gracious Proclamation of 1858. The Editor further regrets that Lord Curzon should have passed laws to suppress education and the liberty of the Press, the two greatest blessings of British rule in India. He adds that the Native public admit His Lordship is an able administrator, but are of opinion that in India he used to display his ability only when some Imperial end had to be gained.

Lord Curzon.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

5. The *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), of the 1st May 1904, publishes a communication from one "Master" Atma Ram under the heading "Oppression! Oppression! Oppression!" (*Zulm, Zulm, Zulm*), which runs as follows:—

The Universities Act.

"The object of Government in passing the Universities Act is to convince the people that it aims at remedying defects which experience has

shown to exist in the present system of education, and that in future, education, especially high education, will be imparted in a manner that will exalt the people and enable them to develop gentlemanly characteristics and create a taste for the acquisition of knowledge for its own sake. But those who are endowed with the faculty of discrimination cannot be imposed upon. They know full well that the real object of the powers that be is to prevent Indians from receiving high education, so that they may never claim equality with the European officers of the Government. It is to be feared that Lord Curzon, who claims to be a statesman, will bring about the ruin of the British Empire by the policy he is pursuing." It now rests entirely with the Government to affiliate or disaffiliate a College. They can likewise prevent a College student from appearing in a University Examination on trifling pleas. It is, therefore, our decided opinion that mere quill-driving or chattering like the Bengalis can no longer serve any useful purpose. Now that our rulers have taken to interfering with our liberties, we should not keep silent. We should unite together to demand our rights and resist manfully until they have been conceded, even though the effort should cost us hundreds of maunds of the 'red ink,' *i.e.*, blood. And so long as our rights are not granted we should not shrink from converting life into death (*aur jab tak hamare haquq hasil na ho jain tab tak hasti se madum karne men kotahi na karni chahiye*). Our motto should be 'death before dishonour.' O, ye beloved residents of Arya Varta (India), be up and doing! How long will ye put up with this state of subjection? You should give a proof of your valour by entering on the war (*bar-sari parkhash ho kar*), and, by the order of the Almighty, becoming heroes and driving your oppressors across the ocean."

The Land Alienation Act.

6. The *Victoria Paper* (Siálkot), of the 1st May 1904, says that the working of the Land Alienation Act has proved beneficial to the agricultural community in the Punjab by serving as a check on their extravagant habits. They can no longer mortgage their lands as freely as before. The *Mahajans* also are not injuriously effected by the legislation in question, in that the Act does not apply to the lands previously mortgaged to them. It may also be pointed out in this connection that the money which formerly found its way into the pockets of the Registration *Muharrirs* is now saved to the *zamindars*.

Amendment Bills to the Punjab Municipal and the District Boards Acts.

7. The same paper, after reporting that Amendment Bills to the District Boards and the Municipal Acts have been laid before the Provincial Legislative Council by the Hon'ble Mr. Anderson, suggests that a few sections should be added to the Acts named to the effect that a Municipal Commissioner who is known to be swayed by religious bigotry in the discharge of his public duties should be disqualified to hold office, and that the relations of a member should not be held eligible for appointments in the gift of a Municipality or a District Board.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Police Commission's Report.

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th April 1904, reprints extracts from the summary of the Police Commission's Report which has recently appeared in the *Times*, and says that the defects and shortcomings the Com-

mission have pointed out in the existing Police system are real. The Editor is, however, of opinion that the remedies suggested in the Report are based on misconception and cannot, therefore, be expected to prove efficacious. For instance, adds he, the Commission have recorded that the corruption prevalent among the Police is ascribable to the low salaries paid to them. This is not, however, a fact. The Commissioners themselves have admitted that *all* the Police officials are corrupt; and among the latter not a few draw very large salaries. If, therefore, the cause of the above corruption assigned in the Report were the true one, well-paid and highly-placed Police Officers would not loot the people. The Editor adds that corrupt officials remain so in every position, nay, their dishonest practices keep pace with the increase of their pay. He further remarks that the Commission's enquiries have not, and could not have, extended to the real causes of the prevalence of bribery amongst the Indian Police.

(*b*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Treatment of Natives by Europeans.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th April 1904, says that, in writing about the gross ill-treatment of the aboriginal inhabitants of the German Colony in Africa, the *Civil and Military Gazette* advises the Bengali Press to compare the evil with the rare cases of ordinary ill-treatment of lower class Natives by Anglo-Indians. That paper, adds the Editor, means to say that the Germans having treated their Negro subjects in an extremely savage manner, the people of India should put up in silence with the comparatively slighter ill-treatment which some Anglo-Indians accord to them. This is, however, very bad logic, and no enlightened and honest Englishman will approve of it. The Editor then goes on to say that a display of undue rigour towards the people being calculated to spread discontent in the country, Anglo-Indians should hasten to mend their ways, remembering that justice and politeness alone can ensure British rule in India.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—12-5-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 14th May 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The cost of the Tibet Mission.

1. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 7th May 1904, says that the Liberals' support of the Ministry in the matter of the Tibet "Mission" is tantamount to their approval of the employment of Asiatics to kill men of their own races. The recent fighting in Tibet, adds the Editor, goes to show that Government will not now hesitate to annex that country ; but he would have been glad if the conquest had been gained by British soldiers. He further remarks that the "Mission's" character was, in the first instance, declared to be a peaceful one merely to prevent the Imperial Exchequer being saddled with its cost. Government was under the impression that the "Mission" would reach Lhassa without shedding blood, but its own officers have complicated matters and placed it in an awkward position. The Editor concludes by remarking that the cost of the expedition should not be charged to the revenues of India.

Oppression of pilgrims to Mecca.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th May 1904, states that several respectable newspapers of India, Egypt and Turkey have published heart-rending accounts of the oppression to which pilgrims to Mecca are subjected by certain unprincipled and avaricious officers there. They also report that the matter having at last reached the ears of the Sultan, His Majesty has appointed a Commission of enquiry in view to redressing the grievances of the pilgrims.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th and 7th May 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

The Hedjaz Railway.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Amount already acknowledged	...	15,957	8	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	50	13	0
Total	...	16,008	5	3

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th May 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand	...	899	5	3
Small subscriptions ...	...	9	7	0
Total	...	908	12	3
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	2,006	11	6
GRAND TOTAL	...	2,915	7	9

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 6th May 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions :—

The same.

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 29th April 1904 ...		1,708	0	1
Small subscriptions ...	...	85	0	0
Total	...	1,793	0	1
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	16,288	2	1

(*b*)—*Home.*

6. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th May 1904, says that in the course of his reply to the address presented to him by the Bombay Corporation five years ago, Lord Curzon gave the people to understand that he would always attach great weight to public opinion. Again, during the early days of his rule he managed to thoroughly impress on Natives that he was a liberal, just and open-minded administrator. During the last two years of his Viceroyalty, however, he showed a disposition to disregard public opinion and have everything his own way. For instance, he did not hesitate to pass the Official Secrets Act in spite of the fact that the measure was opposed by all sections of the population. The Editor further remarks that the public hoped to find in the departing Viceroy another Ripon, but that His Excellency has, like Lord Lytton, changed India (for the worse). It must, however, be admitted that in some cases, *e. g.*, in the matter of the administration of justice between Natives and Europeans, Lord Curzon always fought for truth and justice.

Lord Curzon.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar) of the 4th May 1904, after remarking that no nation can advance politically unless there exists a community of interest between its component parts, deprecates the existence of political disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans. The Editor quotes passages from Mr. Morison's writings to show that Western education and the various Government institutions are partly responsible for this disunion. He is also of opinion that the authorities' efforts to bring Muhammadans into line with Hindus in the matter of education constitute another cause of the evil, and regrets that the last-named should have failed to realise that they could make no real progress unless the Prophet's followers moved along with them. The establishment, he adds, of the National Congress, which aims at introducing a representative form of government into the country and will thus lead to Musalmans being deprived of their fair share of the official loaves and fishes, has also contributed to bring about the present state of affairs. The Editor then goes on to say that Muhammadan opposition to the Congress has had the effect of creating other differences between the two great communities inhabiting India, and that some well-wishers of the country are doing their utmost to throw oil on the troubled waters. He concludes by exhorting Hindus and Muhammadans to make up their differences, remarking that otherwise the Congress can never succeed in attaining its objects.

Political disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

8. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st May 1904, says that, as British subjects, it is the duty of Natives to obey the laws promulgated by Government, always bearing in mind that the peace and prosperity of the country depend entirely on their loyal conduct. If their acts of omission or commission, adds the Editor, are sometimes graciously passed over, this should not embolden them to repeat the same. He does not mean to impugn the loyalty of his fellow-countrymen : all that he wishes to insist upon is that they should conduct themselves like a farsighted and obedient people. He then goes on to say that His Majesty's Musalman subjects in India behave in quite a different way. For instance, while they read *Khutbas* in the name of the Sultan in their mosques, pray for him and raise subscriptions for the wounded, &c., whenever Turkey is involved in a war, nothing of the kind is done for their own Government. The Editor is afraid that such conduct on their part is calculated to make Government doubt their loyalty, and warns his co-religionists to bethink themselves before it is too late.

Muhammadans and Government.

VI.—Legislation.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th May 1904, writing about the Punjab Limitation Act, says that in spite of what Mr. Shah Din said at the Council the extension of the period of limitation from three to six years in the case of monetary transactions is calculated to decrease litigation. The Editor is also of opinion that the Act will be certain to prove beneficial to the zamindars, inasmuch as it will help them in extricating themselves from debt.

The Punjab Limitation Act.

10. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 9th May 1904, publishes similar remarks.

The same.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th May 1904, says that it has pointed out more than once that it is the National Congress which has compelled Government to change its educational policy. And the Bengalis being the meanest and the most seditious supporters of the Congress, they may be said to have arrested the educational progress of their fellow-countrymen, including Muhammadans, who have not yet fully shaken off their lethargy. That this is no mere surmise on the Editor's part is, he says, abundantly clear from what the *Globe*, the *Daily Telegraph*, the *Times* and certain other English newspapers have said about the passing of the Universities Act. It is, therefore, high time that the Congress refused to be led by the nose by the Bengalis and followed the collective lead of all the communities inhabiting the country. The Editor calls upon the successor of the late Sir Sayad Ahmad Khan to publish an open letter to the Congress men on the subject, and promises to do his utmost to bring about the desired result.

The Universities Act.

12. The same paper says that in its issue of the 1st instant the *Victoria Paper* remarks that the Transfer of Property Act has proved extremely beneficial to the Punjab, inasmuch as it has put a stop to property being mortgaged or sold for trifling sums. There can be no doubt about this; but there is also a dark side to the picture. In connection with the recovery of arrears (*sic.—wasul-i-baqi*) zamindars have their household goods, as also the ornaments and holiday clothes of their females, attached. The only way, adds the Editor, to remedy the evil is to establish agricultural banks in the Province, and thereby supplement the good work done through the instrumentality of the above Act. He further remarks that the judiciary also stands in need of reform, alleging that Native "administrators of justice" are swayed more by racial predilictions than by a regard for their official duties, which leads to the *banias* being, to a certain extent, compensated for the losses suffered by them (*sic*).

The Transfer of Property Act and the Punjab.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

13. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 4th May 1904, announces that all the four newly-appointed native orderlies to the King-Emperor are Sikhs, and ironically remarks that Muhammadans seem to have lost their old (soldierly) qualities. The Editor adds that he does not grudge the Sikhs the honour conferred on them: he knows that they are a warlike and brave people and that Government is of opinion—rightly or wrongly—that they alone can prove of use to it in its hour of need. He would, however, exhort his co-religionists to protest against the proposal to reduce the number of Muhammadan companies in the 24th Marwar Infantry from four to two.

Native orderlies to the King-Emperor.

14. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 12th May 1904, writes:—

The proposed Colonial and Indian Exhibition in London.

"The waning tide of British Imperialism is proposed to be given a fresh impetus by those who believe in the doctrine of 'the Empire for herself and the world for the Empire.' The impetus is to take the shape of a great Colonial and Indian Exhibition to

be held in London during the summer of next year. Perhaps the success of the Louisiana Exposition has put the idea into some British heads of doing something to rival, if not eclipse, Cousin Jonathan's feat, and Imperialism being now John Bull's trump card, an Imperial game, something after Mr. Chamberlain's heart, is sought to be mixed up with the ordinary business and social features of the Exhibition. The promoters wish to repeat the successful experiment of the Colonial and Indian Exhibition of 1886, which gave the first great push to latter-day Imperialism, and they believe that the rapid strides made in the Imperialist sentiment and in the progress of relations between Great Britain and her Colonies and Dependencies justify a fresh experiment on a larger scale. It will be as it were a practical outcome of the current proposals for a closer union. The special object of the Exhibition will be to 'demonstrate that the British Empire produces all the necessaries and luxuries of life in quantities large enough to supply the wants of all its inhabitants, while the quality is at least equal to those produced in any other portion of the globe.' In other words, it is intended to prove that the Empire can be entirely self-sustained and can therefore be independent of the rest of the world in case of any war or other complications, and that in this respect it differs from any other Empire, however large may be its area and varied its resources. It is understood that influential support has been secured for the project, and the Exhibition is proposed to be opened in May 1905. All the Governments and Administrations of the King's over-sea possessions are being asked to participate. The space available for the exhibition of products will be reserved for the tenancy of the various Governments and Administrations until February next, when any space remaining unutilised will be offered to the British exhibitors of Colonial produce and manufactures. The Honorary Advisory Committee of the Exhibition is a very distinguished one, heading with the Duke of Argyle, and we notice the name of Sir Muncherji Bhownuggree in it."

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—18-5-04—70.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 21st May 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 16th May 1904, says that the London *Times* is of opinion that the Tibet Mission should leave Gyantse and advance on Lhassa, where alone they should dictate their terms. There can be no doubt that the Mission could secure more favourable terms at the latter place, but it is equally clear that terrible carnage will most likely precede the British entry into Lhassa, which Government ought never to allow. Although it is an admitted fact that the Tibetans are no match for Government's forces, still they have shown that they are a brave people; and did they possess modern weapons of war and were they led by able Generals, it would not be so easy for the Mission to reach Lhassa. At all events, the Grand Lama's followers may be relied upon to contest the Mission's entry into the capital of their country. And as this will be certain to mean a "massacre of the innocents," the necessary treaty had better be concluded at Gyantse.

Grievances of pilgrims to Mecca.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th May 1904, in continuation of its previous remarks, complains that, thanks to the Sharif of Mecca, pilgrims to that city had to suffer far greater hardships this year than was the case at any previous time. For instance, they were charged at an exorbitant rate for their conveyance from Mecca to Medina by means of camels; but as the Sharif paid only a very small fraction of the hire to the camel-owners, and pocketed the rest himself, the men refused to carry the pilgrims. This led to an altercation between the last-named and the owners of camels, which culminated in a

fight, resulting in a large number of the former being killed or wounded. The Editor adds that the incident does not redound to the credit of the Turkish Government, and exhorts the Sultan to take steps to prevent pilgrims from being oppressed.

The Hedjas Railway and Indian Muhammadans.

3. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th May 1904, remarks that although the Quran distinctly enjoins that charity should begin at home, it is to be regretted that Indian Muhammadans, especially journalists, who pose as leaders of their community and are spreading disunion in the country, should overlook the above teaching and should, from motives of show, give money for the Hedjaz Railway, thereby rendering their financial position still more precarious. The Editor would like to know if his co-religionists have no poor relations and neighbours or widows and orphans in their families and community to assist, that they should squander their resources like this. He has pointed out more than once that the said Railway is to be constructed on business principles, that the undertaking can benefit the Turkish Government alone, and that no special concessions are to be made in favour of Indian Muhammadans travelling to Mecca. He is, therefore, at a loss to guess why the last-named should impoverish themselves still further by helping forward the project, and why they should not think first of the claims of orphans and widows among themselves. Were the Railway in question, adds he, calculated to benefit the Prophet's followers in the least, he would have been the first man to give his mite and open a subscription list. As it is, he looks upon the project with disfavour and is of opinion that the Sultan has no knowledge that money for the work is being collected in this country. Indeed, were His Majesty aware of the fact, Indian pilgrims to the Hedjaz would not be so cruelly oppressed by the Sharif of Mecca and other Turkish officials. The Editor concludes by calling upon his co-religionists to bethink themselves, remarking that their present mistaken attitude towards the Railway in question is not only contrary to the teachings of the Quran, but clashes with common sense and expediency, while it is being carefully watched by Government.

The same.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 13th May 1904, announces that a receipt for the instalment of £150 remitted by it to the Hedjaz Railway Fund Committee, Constantinople, on the 3rd March last reached its office on the 9th instant. The short period of a little over two months which has elapsed between the remittance of the amount and the receipt of the acknowledgment would show that the Committee have shaken off their lethargy and are now working in a really earnest and business-like manner. After stating that medals for those of the subscribers who are entitled to the same will be received shortly from the Sultan, the Editor regrets that the conduct of certain newspapers in connection with the collections made by them for the above Railway should be such as to afford the public cause to doubt their *bonâ fides*. As an instance in point, he states that quite recently a notice was served on the Editor of a certain local newspaper (the reference is to the *Paisa Akhbar*) calling upon him to render on account of the moneys received by him. He wishes that Mulla Abdul Qayum, President of the Hedjaz Railway Fund

Central Committee, Hyderabad, would act on the suggestion made in the *Watan* some time back to prevent embezzlement of the contributions received (*vide* paragraph 1 of Selections No. 13).

The same.

5. The same paper acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund :—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 6th May 1904	...	1,793	0	1
Small subscriptions ...	...	57	14	0
Total	...	1,850	14	1
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	16,346	0	1

(*b*)—*Home.*

A seditious article.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th May 1904, says that it regards with supreme contempt the article headed "The Universities Bill" which appeared in the *Ahluwalia Gazette* of the 1st instant. As regards Government, the Editor cannot say what course it may choose to adopt in the matter. To some, he adds, it will give as much rope as they want, while others it will punish for a single false step. If it comes to the conclusion that nothing can be more seditious than the writing referred to, the Editor thinks it possible that it may punish the offenders. He then alleges that the *Ahluwalia Gazette* is not to blame for the publication of the article, and that the real culprits are the "local political clique" who patronise the *Gazette* and other newspapers of its kind. The law, he adds, is also responsible for the appearance of such writings, for it lays down no standard of ability for the Editors and proprietors of newspapers, and relies upon the Criminal Procedure Code to make them be of good behaviour. The result is that it is impossible for a Deputy Commissioner to reject an application for starting a newspaper, although the man presenting it should be ignorant and a bad character. Foolish articles, like the one under reference, continue to be published, and scurrilous papers help to bring their better-conducted contemporaries of the Vernacular Press into disrepute.

The same.

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 13th May 1904, writing on the same subject, remarks that the article constitutes a foolish attempt to inflame the people against Government. The writer, adds the Editor, appears to be a maniac and must have been out of his senses when he wrote his article, for otherwise he would not have asked his fellow-countrymen to "oppose Government manfully till they have gained their rights, although this should cost them hundreds of maunds of blood." The Editor then goes on to say that Natives cannot thank Government sufficiently for having taught them to try to gain their objects by constitutional and civilised methods. He is firmly convinced that there is not a single sensible Native who can harbour the idea of using force towards Government for the purpose. He further remarks that, but for the receipt of a disclaimer from Master Atma Ram of Amritsar, he would

not have come to know of the publication of the writing in question. The offending article is signed "Master Atma Ram," and this led the public to suspect the Editor of the *Hitkari* of being the author. That gentleman, however, assures the Editor that he had nothing to do with it, and the latter, who knows the former personally and credits him with being a sensible person, is inclined to accept the assurance.

The same.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), the 16th May 1904, remarks that some Urdu newspapers are decrying as seditious the writing under reference, while an Amritsar paper is of opinion that the articles for the publication of which Mr. Tilak and "Master" Amba Parshad were prosecuted under Section 153 A were not as inflammatory as the one published by the *Ahluwalia Gazette*. After remarking that he has not read the article complained of, the Editor says that a certain newspaper has urged Government to prosecute the *Gazette* for sedition. This, he adds, should show that the Vernacular Press is so thoroughly loyal that it will not screen even one of its own members guilty of misconduct.

Inflammatory writings in the Native Press.

9. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 14th May 1904, writes :—

"Writing a few days back on the inflammatory character of a passage in an Amritsar print, we expressed our conviction that such objectionable writings would be denounced by the rest of the Vernacular Press; and we find facts bearing us out in this view. The *Watan* takes strong exception to the note and, inviting the attention of the Government to it, justifies the passing of a stringent Sedition Law and of the Official Secrets Act on the ground that measures like these alone can enable Government to deal properly with persons who are themselves evil-minded and bring into discredit the entire peace-loving population of the country and its well-wishers. Our contemporary thinks that those who had brought themselves into the clutches of the old law could have hardly penned, even before the later modification of the Indian Sedition Laws, such inflammatory words as have been used by the writer in the columns of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* after the adoption of the new measure. The *Vakil* of Amritsar, in its issue of the 11th instant, tries to explain away its previous silence on the point, notwithstanding its being also published at Amritsar, by contending that the passage in question is too hateful to be noticed, and characterises it as 'a disloyal writing against the Government.' The *Arorbans Gazette*, another Amritsar paper, is no less emphatic in its denunciations of the paragraph. It calls upon the authorities to take due notice of the contribution. In fact, the sensation caused by this effort to stir up ill-feelings between the rulers and the ruled and the exhortation to the latter is not confined to Amritsar newspapers or any particular set of papers. The *Vakil* seems to think that the supporters of the paper are persons of importance and influence."

The National Congress.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th May 1904, quotes extracts from the *Bengalee*, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Tribune* and *United India*—all Congress papers—relating to different topics, and remarks that a careful perusal thereof will convince every thoughtful person that it is its own friends who have lowered the National Congress in the public estimation and have converted it into a fault-finding and carping critic. Is not this, asks the Editor, unfortunate for the country?

VI.—Legislation.

The Punjab Limitation Act.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th May 1904, says that the new Punjab Limitation Act is calculated to put a stop to profitless litigation. It will do away with the institution of suits which were previously filed against the wishes of both creditors and debtors merely to prevent their being barred by time. Nor can it inflict any loss on such creditors as may wish to realise their dues before the expiry of the new period of limitation. The Editor adds that with the exception of a limited body of persons (legal practitioners) whose income depends on extensive litigation, the Act has been approved by all sections of the population.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The administration of justice in India.

12. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 21st May 1904, writes :—

"Recently in Dacca the Police hauled up Soudamini Jugi, a girl of tender years, before the Senior Deputy Magistrate of that town on a charge of murder by arsenic poison. The Magistrate committed her to the Sessions under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code, and the Sessions Judge, in his turn, sentenced her to transportation for life. A Junior Pleader of the local Bar, Babu S. C. Roy, had been moved to pity by her helpless condition and had conducted the defence in the Sessions Court without any remuneration. This gentleman was so convinced of her innocence that he got an appeal filed in the High Court at his own expense and succeeded in enlisting the sympathy of a Pleader of the High Court, Babu H. N. Mitter, who argued on her behalf without any fee. The Judges of the High Court, after thoroughly examining the grounds on which the Police, the Magistrate, and the Sessions Judge had combined to ruin the girl, found accused innocent and set her at liberty. The moral of the case is obvious. If the heart of Babu S. C. Roy had not been moved by her helpless condition she would have by now been sailing to the Andamans. It is not frequently that a lawyer's heart is moved, and it is not in every instance that a victim of the Police, the Magistrate, and the Judge combined can afford to appeal to the High Court. And, as readers of newspapers are aware, the present case is by no means a solitary instance of the High Court being instrumental in saving a life from the clutches of the lower courts. In other words, it is by no means rare for innocent lives to be sacrificed in India at the altars of Police incapacity, executive vagary, and judicial whimsicality. We have no doubt but that the Poiice who sent up the girl on an entirely fictitious charge, and the Magistrate who committed her to the Sessions on the evidence of the said Police, and the Sessions Judge who sentenced her to transporation for life without a shudder will be rewarded with rapid promotion, and Babus S. C. Roy and H. N. Mitter secretly condemned for undertaking to interfere with the smooth working of the administration of criminal justice in India."

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Muhammadan Press.

13. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th May 1904, says that not a few of the articles published by Muhammadan newspapers, especially during political crises in Europe, praise the Turkish Government and contain prayers for its progress and prosperity. This is a matter of great surprise to the Editor, for he can never forget that Indian Muhammadans are

closely connected with the British Government and that their welfare is entirely in its hands. He adds that his co-religionists raise funds for the Sultan, pray for victory to his arms (in times of war) and stand by him in opposition to the remaining sections of the population. In his opinion all this is the result of writings in Muhammadan newspapers, and he does not know how to characterise their conduct in this respect. After remarking that he is not inimically disposed towards Turkey or its present ruler, he promises to revert to the subject at some future time, when he hopes to be able to show why Government cannot place full reliance in Musalmans.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—26-5-04—70.

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[Vol. XVII.] [No. 21.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 28th May 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th May 1904, says that now that the troops, who were said to have been sent with the Tibet "Mission" as an escort, have put hundreds of the Lamas' followers to the sword, it is wholly wrong to persist in calling the expedition a "Mission." After remarking that the Government of India's act is nothing short of an invasion of Tibet, the Editor observes that Mr. Brodrick's long speech in support of his motion asking the sanction of the Commons for the employment of Indian troops beyond the frontiers of this country was far from convincing. The Secretary of State for India declared that the "Mission" had been despatched to establish friendly relations between the British Government and that of Tibet. One may, however, be permitted to ask, if this were the case and if no opposition to the "Mission" was expected, where was the necessity for sending a strong force with Maxim guns? Did not this mean, adds the Editor, that, if necessary, the Tibetans were to be brought to their senses by force?

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th May 1904, remarks that the fighting in Tibet does not seem to have opened the Tibetan's eyes and brought them to a reasonable frame of mind. There can, however, be no doubt, adds the Editor, that the misfortune which has overtaken them is ascribable solely to their religious Head, who has not only been disregarding his treaty obligations to the Government of India, but has been guilty of establishing friendly relations with a rival power—Russia.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st May 1904, writing on the same subject, says that the majority of newspapers in India are of opinion that the despatch of the Mission was a necessary evil. Russia can now invade this country through Tibet alone, and it was incumbent on Government to take steps to avert the danger. It is far better, adds the Editor, that the Tibetans, who are a religious people and despise the good things of this world, should be under the protection of Government than that the Czar should endanger the peace of India by obtaining power over them.

The same.

4. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 21st May 1904, regrets that the peaceful Mission sent to Tibet should have mowed down the misguided Tibetans who assembled at the Hot Springs to request it to return to India. The men could have been made to disperse by the firing of a few blank cartridges among them, while the fighting in question constitutes a foul blot on the fair fame of the British Government. After remarking that the "Mission" may be expected to reach Lhassa in a few days and plant the British Flag on the Royal palace there, the Editor enquires in which direction, to Kabul or to South China, Government will be likely to turn its attention after that event.

The same.

5. The *Muhazzab* (Gujranwala), of the 16th May 1904, says that if Japan continues to gain successes, Russia will have to apply to Germany and France for help. And in that event England will naturally fight with her ally, and a European war will be the result. As, however, Japan can render England no material help in such a contingency, the latter would be well advised to bespeak in advance the co-operation of the United States, which will respond to the call only too gladly. The Editor concludes by remarking that should Russia come off victorious she will be a permanent menace to the peace of India.

The Russo-Japanese War.

6. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 18th May 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that as long as the war does not endanger the peace of India, it should be a matter of perfect indifference to the Natives which of the combatants comes out successful. He then goes on to say that the people of India cannot understand politics, and advises them to avoid discussing subjects beyond their comprehension. He adds that instead of meddling in the affairs of foreign countries, they, an enslaved and conquered people, had better attend to matters affecting themselves. In this connection he ridicules the Bengal Press for its gushing sympathy with Japan, and avers that it ill becomes a nation innured to a life of subjection and dependence from time immemorial to pride themselves on victories obtained by a neighbouring country. The writer further remarks that Natives have no opinion of their own, and that in the matter of professing sympathy for Japan, they take their clue from English and Anglo-Indian newspapers, which naturally like to see the old enemy of Great Britian worsted in the fight. He has, however, no doubt that the defeat of Russia will be to the advantage of India, removing for a time at least, as it will, the fear of a Russian invasion

The same.

of the country, and dispensing with the necessity of spending enormous sums of money to checkmate Russian aims, although the bug-bear has so far proved the means of preserving the existence of Native States.

Commenting on the above the Editor says that there is nothing incongruous in his fellow-countrymen rejoicing with Government over Japanese successes, seeing that both are actuated by a common motive. He takes exception to the writer's statement that it is the fear of a Russian invasion which stands in the way of Government ill-treating the feudatory States, and remarks that in its treatment of the people Government is guided by its sense of duty alone.

The Hedjas Railway.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th May 1904, acknowledges the following subscriptions towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund:—

		Rs.	A.	P.
Balance in hand on the 13th May 1904	...	1,850	14	1
Small subscriptions ...	...	106	14	0
Total	...	1,957	12	1
Add amount remitted to Turkey	...	14,495	2	0
GRAND TOTAL	...	16,452	14	1

(*b*)—*Home.*

Government and the People.

8. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd May 1904, remarks that educated Natives have come to fully realise and appreciate the advantages of British rule and are always ready to lend a helping hand to Government. On the other hand, the Ruling Chiefs are beginning to regard themselves as colleagues of Government and to take an interest in all public affairs. Certain sections of the population, however, are opposed the present *régime*, and the identity of these is fully known to both the English and the Russians. The Editor approves of the policy of the Government of India in following the dictates of justice and improving the condition of all classes of its subjects and in making a display of its power and strength from time to time, as was done on the occasion of the Delhi Darbar.

Muhammadans and Government.

9. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th May 1904, refers to an article in the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* regarding the attitude of Indian Muhammadans towards the Sultan and the British Government respectively, and says that that paper has either no interest in Islam or is a flatterer of the worst type. It can, adds the Editor, derive no benefit whatever from unduly flattering Government, which is shrewd enough to realise that those who behave like the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* do so only in the hope of ingratiating themselves in its favour. He then goes on to say that the connection between the ruler of Turkey and the Prophet's followers in India is purely religious, and that the latter pray for victory to the former's arms and help him with money only when he is opposed

to a power other than England. To this, he says, Government has no objection, just as the raising of funds by the Bengalís for the wounded Japanese soldiers cannot make it suspect the loyalty of that section of the Indian population.

A Seditious Article.

10. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 16th May 1904, remarks that although the Universities Bill was, generally speaking, looked upon with disfavour througout India, still all thinking persons are of opinion that the laws framed by Government need amending with the changes of time. And it is not impossible that if the Natives of India hold wrong views about the measure they may come to be convinced of their mistake in time, while the same may be said of Government's attitude towards the new law. It is, however, nothing but ingratitude to overlook all the blessings Government has conferred on the country merely because the authorities have committed what is supposed to be a mistake. If this, adds the Editor, is the result of education, as an article on the Universities Bill in a recent issue of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* would show, he would prefer ignorance to an education which would disturb the public peace and oppose the permanence of a just and peaceful rule in the country. After reproducing the article aforesaid, he refers to the disinterested efforts of the Punjab authorities on behalf of the Khalsa College, as also to what Government has done for the Aligarh and the Benares Colleges. Is it not a shame, he asks, that such kindness should be repaid by mean acts like the one of which the *Ahluwalia Gazette* has been guilty? The Editor then ironically remarks that history affords sufficient evidence of the "gallantry" which the writer of the said article exhorts "the beloved residents of Aryavarta" to show the world. In conclusion, he says that all newspapers, both Hindu and Muhammadan, have regarded the writing in question with contempt, and that the pillorying the *Ahluwalia Gazette* has received in their columns should be sufficient punishment for it. He therefore expresses the hope that Government will take pity on the newspaper and overlook its offence.

The same.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 20th May 1904, writing on the same subject, says that the article has attracted the attention of several leading newspapers, which regard it as seditious and inflammatory, and would have Government take due notice of it. After publishing the substance of the remarks made by the *Observer* and the *Vakil*, the Editor advises the authorities concerned to enquire into the doings of the "political clique," to which the latter paper ascribes the publication of the article. He next praises the foresight displayed by "Master" Atma Ram, Editor of the *Hitkari*, in disclaiming all connection with the writing under reference.

The same—an Apology.

12. The Editor of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* (Amritsar), in the issue of the paper dated the 16th May 1904, says that the article headed "The Universities Bill" which appeared in the issue of the 1st idem was inserted by his Assistant, during his absence at Jullundur, without consulting him or reading the article. He is at a loss to guess with what object Master Atma Ram, the author of the article, has penned the foolish words he has used towards the just British Government. The "Master's" ravings, he adds, should not be taken more seriously than the assertion of a blind person calling day night.

He would advise that worthy to remove the bandage from his eyes, realise the fact that the present is not the time of the Sikhs or Muhammadans, and that the enlightened and just Government which rules the country now accords equal treatment to the strong and the weak. The Editor highly regrets that such language towards Government should have been used in his paper as he could never have employed himself. He hastens to apologise for the mistake committed by his Assistant, and is desirous of remaining above all suspicion so far as Government is concerned. After remarking that the *Ahluwalia Gazette* has always been a sincere well-wisher and a faithful servant of Government and that it will continue to be willing to make any sacrifices in the service of the latter, he says that some newspapers in the Punjab have made much of the article in question and have invited Government's attention to it. In conclusion, the Editor prays God to preserve British rule in India for ever and send the enemies and rivals of Government to perdition.

The evil effects of the National Congress movement.

13. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th May 1904, remarks that it is high time that thinking Natives of all classes published articles and open letters exhorting the leaders of the National Congress to turn over a new leaf, conduct their newspapers in a mild tone, and prefer reflection to declamation. These worthies should also be asked, if they possess even a grain of patriotism and wish to see their country and countrymen in a prosperous condition, to treat the present rulers of India with respect. After remarking that previous to the nineteenth century, power was a synonym for the sword, but that at present it is synonymous with the pen, the Editor says that the royal road which can now lead the slave to emancipation is his outstripping his master in learning, liberty being the wages of the labour spent on the acquisition of knowledge. This, he adds, would show that everything depends on education. The Editor then goes on to say that at the time of the establishment of the National Congress India was in the grip of an intellectual famine, and that consequently the movement was wholly premature. Some, he says, may object that every person, whether ignorant or educated, wants to have his political rights, and live a free and comfortable life. He would ask all such to remember that no one ignorant of his responsibilities can determine his rights, and that education alone can enable a person to realise both. He, however, regrets that the Congress was launched before education had made sufficient progress in the country, while false encouragement from Sir William Wedderburn and Mr. Hume had the effect of confirming the promoters of the propaganda in their mistake. The result has been that during its existence of nearly 20 years the movement has succeeded only in exciting suspicion and aversion, while it enjoys the confidence of neither Government nor the people. The Editor adds that if his fellow-countrymen were to criticise Government measures in a dispassionate spirit there is no reason why their suggestions should not be listend to, for Government cannot but realise that it is impossible to rule over aliens in an enlightened manner without the co-operation of the ruled. But the difficulty is that Bengali patriots and journalists regard denunciatory composition as the perfection of education, with the result that the screws of the administrative machinery are being tightened, life is becoming a burden to the people, Natives are being excluded from higher posts in he public service and the gates of the temple of knowledge are being closed.

In short, every concession the extension of which is demanded by threats is curtailed and it is difficult to foresee what the end is to be. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that the reason why certain posts hitherto filled by Natives are now being given to Eurasians and Native Christians is that Government has begun to suspect non-Christians and is of opinion that under the protection of Christ's followers British rule in India can last longer.

Lord Curzon.

14. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd May 1904, says that in the course of his second Budget speech it was remarked by Lord Curzon that the administrators in India had a twofold duty to perform, *viz.*, to keep the people happy and contented and to protect their lives and property. Experience has shown that this was no mere declamation on His Lordships part, but that it was his earnest desire to act up to the dictum. When the departing Viceroy took up the reins of the Government of India the country was in the deadly grip of plague and famine, not to speak of disturbances on the North-West Frontier. But what was sill worse, Government's efforts to remedy the prevailing evils were resented by the people. Lord Curzon, however, rose equal to the occasion. He made tours through the plague and faminestricken parts of the country, and within two years of his arrival managed to win the confidence of both the people and the *Raises*. He then took in hand his programme of reforms, and succeeded in satisfactorily performing both the duties referred to.

The same.

15. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 21st May 1904, says that the encouragement the Press in India has received and the progress it has made during Lord Curzon's time did not fall to its lot under any former Viceroy. The result is that newspapers have become more useful, while the public taste has been considerably improved. The departing Viceroy, adds the Editor, always took in good part the criticism of his acts in the Press, and accorded equal treatment to all classes of newspapers.

The same.

16. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 28th May 1904, writes :—

"There is something pathetically amusing, so to say, in the way in which the news of Lord Curzon being made much of by his appreciative countrymen at home has been received in this country. If things had always been in this world as they ought to have been, we should have all felt proud of the honours showered and praises lavished on His Lordship. Has he not for over five eventful years laboured with might and main to promote our happiness and prosperity as far as they depend on the proper working of the administrative machinery? Has he not striven strenuously to save the agriculturist from the money-lender's clutches; to protect the subordinates from the arbitrariness of heads of offices; to rescue our ancient monuments from impending ruin; to afford a military carrer to the cadets of old martial houses; to minimise the troubles and discomforts of railway travellers to reform and reorganise the police; to develop to its utmost extent the means of artificial irrigation: in short, to overhaul and improve everything connected with the government of the country? Has he not done his honest best to reform our system of education? Has he not created one new Province, and held out to the natives of Bengal the hope of giving them one more Province to live and multiply in? If ever a man deserved admiration it is Lord Curzon, to whom the admiration of his countrymen is due. But, alas, such is human nature that instead of being elated at his countrymen displaying so great a confidence in him, intelligent

Indians throughout the country are deeply dejected, as if their last hope has been dashed to the ground. In their heart of hearts Indians cherished the hope that some day the ultimate harmfulness of some of the important measures, schemes, and reforms of Lord Curzon may be explained to the English public, and the injurious effects of His Lordship's law-making and reforming activity may somehow be neutralised. But it has now been brought home to the minds of Indians, that the united appeal and protest of all India will have not the least weight with the British Government or public against the personal opinion of Lord Curzon. Alluding to His Lordship being regarded by a section of the Press as the greatest Viceroy since Dalhousie, a Calcutta contemporary remarks:

"'After this will it be reasonable to expect that Mr. Brodrick, on receipt of a memorial from the people of Bengal against the partition of the province, will grant it at once even if Lord Curzon sets his face against it? If there are any who think so, all that we can say is that they do not know the character either of Englishmen or the English bureaucracy.'

"If this is to be said of what is after all a proposal, can there be the smallest ground of hope with regard to schemes and measures that have been adopted and are in working?"

III.—Native States.

Bhartpur affairs.

17. A correspondent writing to the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 10th May 1904, reports that the Political Agent, Bhartpur State, has gone to England on six months' leave. He adds that he is preparing a list of the luggage that officer has taken with him. After promising to reveal whether the luggage contained any articles belonging to the State, he insinuates that the same came to no less than 40 cartfuls.

VI.—Legislation.

The Indian Universities Act.

18. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 21st May 1904, remarks that the Indian Universities Act was passed in the teeth of universal opposition. Indeed, whenever the contest is between argument and force it is the latter which invariably prevails. The new law, adds the Editor, strikes at the very root of higher education, which was introduced into India by Government itself half a century back. This, however, should not alarm his fellow-countrymen: they have come to imbibe such a strong love for that education that nothing can make them turn back from it. Nay, the efforts to wean them from it will lead only to their taking to it the more kindly. Private Schools and Colleges will spring up everywhere, the pupils whereof will care little or nothing for University examinations. They will acquire knowledge for its own sake; and then alone will the people realise what higher education means and how it can be utilised for bettering the condition of the country.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Report of the Police Commission.

19. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 25th May 1904, writes:—

"In reply to a question which Mr. Herbert Roberts the other day in the House of Commons put to the Secretary of State for India, whether the latter could state when he would be able to lay the Report of the Indian Police Commission before Parliament, in view of the fact that the summary of the document had been published by the *Times*, Mr. Brodrick said:—'I am not aware how the substance of the article referred to reached

the journal in which it appears, but, as I stated on the 16th February, I regret I cannot lay the report till I receive the opinion of the Government of India.' It is really very amusing to witness the way in which the Secretary of State and the Government of India are shuffling the responsibility of the delay caused in the publication of the Report. For while we have it from Mr. Brodrick that he is waiting for the opinion of the Government of India, Lord Curzon used language the other day which implied that it was the Secretary of State who had been responsible for the delay. Though it is difficult to decide which of the two is at fault, we fail to see the advisability of the Government of India formulating their own opinion regarding the recommendations made in the Report before they are fully discussed by the public. The nature of the reception recently given to the part publication of its contents by the *Times* must have given some idea to authorities of the interest of the Indian public in police reform—for this is a subject which touches alike the rich and the poor in British India. We think the authorities can sooner put a cart before a horse than publish the Report of the Commission after formulating their own opinions about it—for where will be the use then of the light that comes through the criticism of the public? We hope it is not intended to disregard the light that comes from that quarter."

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

A complaint against the Railway.

20. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 14th April 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that during his recent journey from Jaipur to Delhi he was struck with the inadequate arrangements for the supply of drinking water to passengers. At the Rewari Station, he alleges, a very large number of passengers shouted for water, but neither the Station Master nor the Guard in charge of the train paid the least heed to them. The first-named official, he goes on to say, is reported to be in the habit of employing the Hindu waterman at the station to do his private work. The correspondent also complains that the treatment accorded to passengers by the Railway employés on the line concerned leaves great room for improvement. He further alleges that there being only one latrine in a particular carriage in the train, third class passengers were put to great inconvenience, and he adds that the said passengers are not allowed to make use of waiting rooms at night.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Government's plague policy.

21. A correspondent writing to the *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 18th May 1904, challenges any one to show that any of the official orders issued soon after the advent of the plague in the country clashed with the social usages of any section of the population. He has no fault to find with Government's early plague administration, except that, in order to attain the object in view, it was not of a more rigorous character. The authorities had to deal with an ignorant people, and only the adoption of still more stringent measures could have averted riots and stamped out the disease. As it is, the expenditure of a very large sum of money by Government has only made the people regard it with suspicion, while the epidemic has spread to almost all parts of the country.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—4-6-04- 70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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[Vol. XVII.] [No. 22.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 4th June 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1904, remarks that it is said that originally the Government was not willing to interfere in Tibetan affairs, but that complications on the frontier have compelled it to change its mind. The fear of a Russian invasion of India on that side is alleged to have prompted Lord Curzon to send the present "Mission" to Tibet. The professions, however, that the Mission was of a peaceful character failed to mislead the Native Press, which felt certain that it was an expedition in disguise. And subsequent events have proved that the Native Newspapers were right. With the end of the cold weather the Mission threw off the mask and stood revealed to the world in its true colours.

The same.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th May 1904, remarks that the foolishness of the Tibetans has compelled Government to shed blood in Tibet against its wishes. After stating how the "Mission" has been converted into an "Expedition," the Editor observes that nothing can now prevent the march of the British forces on Lhassa, the Tibetans being unable to offer any effective resistance. He adds that, in order to ensure the defence of India, it is essential that Government should occupy Tibet, and that this event is calculated to prove beneficial to the latter country.

The same.

3. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 2nd June 1904, writes as follows :—

"Lord Curzon's 'Mission of Peace' to Tibet is making headway through streams of blood. The latest telegraphic intelligence, which is printed in another column, reports

another serious encounter with the Tibetans in the attempt to clear a village outside the Mission Camp at Gyantse which the Tibetans were fortifying. * * * * * * * The description of the behaviour of the Tibetans, determined to die to the last man rather than give access to the so-called Peaceful Mission is sensational and pathetic to a degree. * * * They know that their country is their sacred heritage, and well may they distrust European intentions when they see the beginning of the negotiations marked by the hypocrisy of calling a 'Mission of Peace' an expedition armed to the teeth and ready to force its way by carnage on the slightest pretext. * * * *

* * * * * * * *

"The account concludes with the news that the prisoners taken say that they were only new levies from Lhassa and did not know their way about the village, otherwise the British would never have taken it. This shows the desperate determination with which the followers of the Grand Lama are resisting the advance of the Mission of Peace. And such is the hypocrisy of the age that these peaceful villagers will be mowed down like sheep, and yet the bloody expedition will persist in calling itself a Mission of Peace! What a howl would have been raised in the British Press if France or Germany were guilty of such needless carnage, say, in the wilds of Africa, in the name of civilization and peace!"

The same.

4. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 4th June 1904, writes :—

"The oracular utterances of the London papers would be amusing if they were not irritating because one expects sage advice upon emergency from the source of all light. To say that 'an advance on Lhassa now seems to be a more serious military task than was expected,' and that 'it would be rash to begin a decisive movement till a force had been collected rendering success certain,' seems as much as a street boy could have said without the solemnity; and he would very probably have added that all expectations based upon the Amban should not be allowed to interfere at any subsequent stage of the proceedings. It is necessary, now that all depends for future peace relations upon the great argument of arms, that treaty should be concluded at Lhassa itself, but with as little fighting as practicable, the object to bring to break the charm and destroy the superstition of Lhassa's invulnerability, which accomplished, the Tibetan will come to be convinced that the invader is too strong through the simple fact of presence there. That there should be further carnage on a great scale is highly undesirable; and one would wish that a larger force were despatched so as not to encourage the enemy in resistance to his slaughter, a small force obviously tending to create hopes of success in ignorance of the power of modern arms which are a host in themselves.

"The Yellow Peril."

5. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th May 1904, reproduces from the *Paisa Akhbar* an article headed "The Yellow Peril," which opens with the remark that certain selfish and evil-minded European writers and statesmen are busy prejudicing Christian Europe against Japan. They aver that her victory over Russia will put an end to the superiority the West has so long enjoyed over the East. They have even gone the length of asserting that the defeat of Russia will embolden the "Yellow Races," which are numerically far stronger than the Whites, to overrun Europe. The *Paisa Akhbar*, however, can see no danger to Europe in a defeat to Russia, adding that the war in the Far East is the result of aggression on her part and that the Japanese have taken up arms merely in self-defence. The paper further says that the cry regarding the "Yellow Peril" is being taken up in all

parts of Europe. Even England has not escaped the infection, as is evidenced by the recent objectionable legislation against the employment of Chinese labour in South Africa.

The same.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 30th May 1904, says that, in the course of his speech at a recent banquet, it was remarked by a certain French statesman, that the war in the Far East was one between Western and Eastern civilization, and that this being so France could never think of deserting Russia and espousing the cause of Japan. This, adds the Editor, is tantamount to saying that henceforth colour and not justice is to influence the solution of international questions. He then goes on to say that the foul blots which marred European character during the 12th and 13th centuries are still conspicuous. The religious bigotry which then animated "Richard the Lion-hearted" and certain of the Popes now characterises the entire Christian world. Then the feeling found expression in the waging of Crusades, but in these days it manifests itself in another form.

The abolition of Cooper's Hill College.

7. In a leading article in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 2nd June 1904, the following passages occur :—

"* * * Public opinion among our countrymen of all classes in this country is inclined to support Mr. Brodrick in this matter. The College which it has been now decided to abolish has been maintained at the cost of the revenues of this country, and it has done India no special good. In fact, the existence of the Civil Engineering College at Cooper's Hill has helped to increase the stringency and exclusiveness of the monopoly allowed to non-Indians for appointments in the Public Works Department of this country. Educated natives of India had to go to Cooper's Hill to qualify for appointments reserved for the alumni of that institution. During the last few years the sphere of employment open to them in this connection has been sought to be narrowed. The graduates of the Thomason Civil Engineering College at Roorkee have been allowed to be pushed behind by men imported from Cooper's Hill. The people of India have thus no cause to regret the decision that the College at Cooper's Hill should be abolished.

"We shall examine the reasons advanced by the Government of India in support of their recommendation that the College should be retained. * * The Government of India, we think, forget that a scientific College managed or administered by Government is an anamoly which the educational systems of Great Britain are not prepared to tolerate. Again, they forget that it is morally indefensible to maintain Colleges in England at the expense of this country. Such Colleges should be maintained in India and in a state of the utmost possible efficiency. The proper course for Government to adopt is to use the money now spent in maintaining the College at Cooper's Hill to add to the efficiency and equipment of the Thomason Civil Engineering College at Roorkee. That would be a policy dictated by honesty and far-seeing statesmanship. All appointments except the very highest, which require qualifications of an exceptionally high order, should be thrown open to the alumni of the Roorkee College. This would enable natives of India to enter the superior grades of the Public Works Department in larger numbers than is the case at present, and the Government of Lord Curzon would be the last to say a word in favour of such a course.

"Another reason given by the Committee of Enquiry in favour of abolition was that the high cost of the education and maintenance of the students restricted the number of competitors, and that the College supplied a very small number of men for the Indian service. The Government of India sought to reduce the force of this objection by pointing out that they intended to increase their demand for Engineers trained at Cooper's Hill

very considerably in future years. * * * * * The Government of India submitted that during the next few years and for many years to come the number required would not be less than 48. This had reference to the policy recently inaugurated by the Government of Lord Curzon to exclude educated Indians from all the important appointments in the various branches of the Public Works Department. * * * The talk about *esprit de corps*, the corporate sense of responsibility, etc., is all bunkum. The Government of India referred in the same despatch to their intention to offer inducements to the sons of Anglo-Indians to enter Cooper's Hill College. We are glad there will be no occasion now for them to give effect to their intentions. The rest of the despatch of the Government of India dealt with the question of the administration of the College, the tuition fees charged, and the traditions of the service. Under all these heads the despatch, though couched in highly eloquent language, does not contain one solid argument in favour of the position taken up by Lord Curzon and his colleagues or one useful suggestion likely to promote the efficiency of the public service."

Indian Muhammadans and the Hedjaz Railway.

8. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th (received on the 30th) May 1904, in continuation of its previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 20), says that it more than once warned Indian Musalmans that their present attitude towards the Sultan is likely to cost them the confidence of Government. He has also tried to impress it on their minds that their giving money for the Hedjaz Railway is opposed to the tenets of their faith. He again advises them to realise their mistake before it is too late, and use their spare money in relieving the sufferings of their relations and neighbours. Their destinies, he adds, being bound up with that of the British Government, they should have no concern with any other.

The same.

9. The Editor of the same paper in its issue of the 22nd May 1904, says that in spite of the threat of excommunication hurled against him by certain light-headed Muhammadans for his adverse criticism of the Hedjaz Railway scheme, he is determined to stick to his guns. He reiterates that his co-religionists' misguided liberality in giving money for the Railway is opposed to the teachings of the Quran, and challenges his opponents to disprove the assertion.

Grievances of pilgrims to the Hedjaz.

10. A Tank correspondent writing to the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th May 1904, complains of the exactions and cruelties to which pilgrims to the Hedjaz were recently subjected by the Bedouins, and calls upon the Turkish Government to take steps to prevent a repetition of scandal.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The relations between the Viceroy and the people of India.

11. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 31st May 1904, writes:—

"The reception given to Lord Curzon by some people at home, and the laudatory notices of his work in India which are being published in papers like the *Times* and the *Daily Telegraph*, are things which might have been expected in the natural course of things, considering that His Lordship is practically an embodiment of the Imperialistic ideas and principles which at present hold sway over the British public mind. In the eyes of the superficial observer at home Lord Curzon has upheld the glory of the British name in India as has not been done recently by any other Viceroy, because his methods have been just those which are understood and admired by the man in the street—namely, pomp, parade, and an eternal trumpeting of things done or attempted. How far the

work represented by all this show and talk is solid, substantial and real the man in the street who patronises the *Times* has not the patience and does not care to examine, and he feels happy that there is another Pro-Consul whose sayings and doings go to feed his national pride. Any attempt to check the tide of eulogy with which Lord Curzon will be almost overwhelmed during his stay in England will be fruitless, because John Bull is just in the mood of hearing big things talked about himself, and the Indian Viceroy and his friends are just the persons to furnish a good deal of talk of the kind. The *Bengalee's* peace of mind is upset by the way Lord Curzon is being received and talked about, and our contemporary suggests that a manifesto presenting the views of the educated Indian public about His Lordship and his work should be drawn up on the behalf of the various public associations of the country and placed before the British public. We think there is no harm in making the effort, but it is likely to be of very little effect. Its only recommendation would appear to be that it would be less costly than the sending of an Indian deputation to England, which also would have the chance of producing very little impression. The fact is that Lord Curzon has much show in his favour, and no Indian manifesto or deputation could convince the British public that all this show covered nothing substantial in the inside. What is wanted to counteract the effects of Lord Curzon's sayings and doings is that the educated Indian public should care as little about them as His Lordship has cared for their opinions and sentiments. Let Lord Curzon and his admirers proceed in their own way of dealing with Indian affairs, and let educated Indians follow their own lines of thought and policy, dispensing with Government help if it be not given in the way that is required in the true interests of the country. In this way it would soon be found whether the Indian *national will* was stronger or weaker than the will of a single individual like Lord Curzon. If the Indians can by their own efforts chalk out their lines of development and follow their course of progress, what can the measures and policies of the greatest of Viceroys do to check their aspirations? The success of a talking Viceroy like Lord Curzon lies in the fact that the Indian public are mere talkers too—only there is no system in their talk and no strength of purpose in what they say. Manifestoes and deputations would only swell the volume of talk without producing any appreciable impression where it is desired to affect. The only antidote to policy like Lord Curzon's is that Educated India, whom that policy so conspicuously ignores, should have a policy of his own. The Congress and the political Associations do not furnish such a policy. And until such a policy—a self-acting, self-reliant, progressive policy is evolved—the Indians will be mere playthings in the hands of every ambitous Viceroy—mere masses of clay in the potter's hands. Japan's example has shown how great—almost miraculous—may be the power of a highly evolved national will. Unhappily the chief lack in Indian public life is that of a *corporate will.*"

Government and the People.

12. In the course of an article headed "Wanted a Policy of Our Own" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 2nd June 1904, writes as follows :—

"A striking feature of the memorable agitations that took place over the Universities Bill and the Bengal Partition question, which appears also to have attracted the notice of foreigners, was absence of the usual restraint, the customary vociferous protestations of loyalty, and so forth. An amount of plain-speaking was indulged in in the speeches which must have surprised the speakers themselves; and perhaps for the first time in the annals of public agitation in this country, and for the first time in the history of British rule in India, the apparent futility of placing any reliance upon Government in matters of national welfare and national progress was openly and seriously pointed out by some of the leading organs of Indian public opinion. The significance of this despondent, aye, desperate tone, coupled with plain-speaking in the face of the authorities from unexpected quarters, did not fail even to impress the foreigners so long accustomed to timorous whining and sonorous bush-beating. Whence this recklessness? Evidently

and obviously from the shaking (if not breaking) of their confidence in the intentions of some people in power—the only important result the Indian Universities Act and the Bengal dismemberment question appear to have so far produced. * * *

"And it is very natural. It is argued that the Universities Act is a powerful axe forged on the legislative anvil for the destruction of higher and liberal education in India root and branch, and that the Bengal partition question is a prelude to a contemplated policy of distribution and disintegration of Indian races. Education and Unity are two important factors in the self-preservation and self-improvement of a people, and if the slightest suspicion has been allowed to be entertained that blows are intended against these, the cause of all this restlessness and alarm has been found and its justification established. Aye, the poor fellows are painfully conscious of the all-important fact that the other party is unconquerable in its strength and unassailable in its obstinacy! Poor wretches! They have to argue with these—to talk to them of rights and privileges,—aye, to kiss the hands that have been raised to strike them! The patience of the most timorous lamb is apt sometimes to give way under such conditions, and no wonder even the Native of India has spoken out his heart! But the most wonderful feature of the thing is that we have not *yet* been able to divest ourselves of our old habit. We are *still* trying to hold the fire in our hands 'by thinking on the frosty Caucasus.' 'Your intentions,' we roar with all our might, 'we now thoroughly understand—we shall no longer be deceived—we have no faith in you—we have nothing more to expect from you—you want to ruin us!' And the next moment we find ourselves whining to the following effect:—'Have mercy on us! Oh, for God's sake have mercy on us! Your proceedings will ruin us! We have unshaken confidence in your high sense of justice. Oh, don't be so cruel!' If you are quite sure that the Government is absolutely determined to go against the true interests of the country, whose sympathy do you try to excite, whose heart do you expect to melt, by submitting a list of your woes and shedding bucketsful of tears at the feet of the said Government? It is not for the tree to cry to the lifted axe, 'Oh, don't strike! Oh! for mercy's sake don't strike, I shall be hurt!' The incongruity of the appeal is self-evident. The fact is, we have always learnt to believe, to trust, to rely with implicit faith and confidence on a dearly cherished, fondly reared up ideal; and it is difficult, it is painful for us to tear out a belief, an ideal, root and branch, with one powerful wrench, even though it has appeared to be leading us on the wrong path. And here lies the difference between East and West.

"But this is no longer to be, for the irresistible reason that it cannot be. It is better, in the interests of both the rulers and the ruled as well as of general harmony, that the latter should now try to look up more to themselves in all matters pertaining to themselves than to those superior creatures on the Olympian heights who are always amused to observe the swarthy ants at the bottom of the hill struggling to be elephants. These superior creatures above should be left severely alone to grow into angels as best as they can and the ants below to struggle into elephants as best as they can. Let the rulers and the ruled come as little in contact with each other as possible in their respective spheres of work. * * * Blows and sneers abroad make the most discordant elements recoil homeward. Why bewail because the clouds send down not rain on your parched lips but bolts on your head? Why overlook the river by your own dear little hut? Is it dry? Fill it with your tears, but don't depend on the clouds. They are so distant, so proud, so uncertain!

"No one can deny your right to dislike a policy that goes against your interests. But who cares for *your* 'right,' which is another name for 'favour,' and who cares for *you* that have not yet learnt to stand on your legs? Who listens—who has ever listened—to your argument, however just, however logical, however tearful? When the proverbial tiger said to the proverbial lamb—'Look here, you have spoiled the water I am drinking; therefore I will kill you'—the poor lamb argued that he was drinking far below the hill while His Majesty was far above him and therefore he could not see how he had happened

to spoil the water His Majesty was doing the favour of drinking. The argument was quite right; but did it facilitate matters for the poor creature? Your 'rights?' On what are they based? On the mercy of others! Curious 'rights,' are not they? * * *

"Our beloved Queen had given us some written assurance of Government patronage in public service pending our ability. Our rulers have since lost no opportunity of impressing upon us, by word and by action, that that was no promise but a mere conventional phrase signifying nothing, and Lord Curzon has clearly told us and shown us that it *was* so. But what of that? We *still* take our stand firmly and immovably on that Proclamation, nothing but the Proclamation, *our* Magna Charta, *our* battle-cry! O Thomas Atkins! take us to a large vacant place, and, first having put on your heaviest hob-nailed boots after your recognized fashion, grab us by the collar and kick us over and round it from year's end to year's end until our sonorous slumber is shaken off! And ascend once more thy Juggernauth chariot, O Lord Curzon! Guide the rapid wheels that shake heaven's basis! Crush us! Oh, spare us not! Let the deep, sombre, soul-lifting roll of thy relentless, thy merciful, chariot lash up the imbecile into new life, and the gracious wheels of thy God-sent chariot crush them up into new shape! And one who will deserve a statue of purest gold in every town, village and city of India, will be Your Lordship!"

British rule in India.

13. A correspondent writing to the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd May 1904, says that his personal experience as well as the testimony of History bears out the fact that India is far wealthier now than she was in pre-British days. It is true that grain and other articles of food were very cheap under former Governments, but this was due solely to the country being then without a foreign market for them. On the other hand, money was very scarce and the people were subjected to great inconvenience in consequence. The writer then goes on to say that those whose staple food in former times consisted of barley, maize, &c., fare far better now. Again, fifty years back the respectable dressed themselves in *ghazi* and *gárha*, but now look down on even satin and brocade! In the same way those whose forefathers could not afford to buy a clay *chiragh* use English lamps and chandeliers in their houses. Nor is this all. The rates of pay of public servants have gone up to an extent unknown under previous Governments, while many new departments, *e. g.*, Railways, Canals and Forests have added to the people's means of earning a livelihood. It is therefore wholly wrong, adds the writer, to say that India is growing poor under the present *régime*. He then refers to other advantages British rule has conferred on the country.

The National Congress.

14. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 23rd May 1904, says that in a recent issue the *Indian People* has published a valuable communication from one N. D. Gokhale urging the establishment of Congress District Associations and the starting of a permanent fund for the National Congress. The Editor strongly supports the suggestion, and is of opinion that the first duty of the said Associations should be to promote union among the people. The existence of disunion in the country, he adds, is the only obstacle in the way of the Congress, and it rests with that body alone to remove the same. He further remarks that the proposed societies should impress on head clerks, &c., in Government Offices the necessity for union, and point out to them what deplorable consequences are resulting from their narrow-mindedness and partiality (for their co-religionists). The Editor regards the said officials in the light of serpents and holds them responsible for the disunion prevalent in the country.

15. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 27th May 1904, publishes a communication from one Nazir-ul Hasan of Rampur, who dwells on the necessity for founding a Political Association to safeguard the interests of Muhammadans. After remarking that the Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk deserves the thanks of his co-religionists for inviting their attention to the matter, he regrets that certain influential Musalmans should oppose the idea. He would remind these people that the policy of silence the Prophet's followers have hitherto been pursuing is proving highly injurious to their best interests. It has, he adds, made moral cowards of his co-religionists and rendered them incapable of opposing Government even when their political rights are at stake. The result is that Muhammadans are growing poorer and have been losing their rights one by one.

Muhammadans and politics.

16. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 23rd May 1904, remarks that Lord Kitchener's efforts to reform the Indian Army have met with the thorough approval of the British Ministry. The object, adds the Editor, His Excellency has in view is to make such a military power of India that she should be able to defend herself without borrowing a single soldier from England. It is true that the task cannot be accomplished within the tenure of office of any one Commander-in-Chief, still there can be no doubt that it will have been taken well in hand before the present head of the Army in India has quitted his post. The Editor then goes on to say that, in order to attain the desired end, it is necessary that not only should the number of soldiers in India be largely increased, but that the necessary ammunition and weapons of war should be manufactured in the country; and he feels confident that Lord Kitchener will be certain to see to this.

Lord Kitchener and the Indian Army.

17. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd May 1904, says that in case no party considerations stand in the way of Lord Curzon's return to India he is certain to come back on the expiry of his period of leave. The Editor adds that during his 25 years' connection with the Press he has not known of a more fortunate or successful Viceroy than Lord Curzon. He then expresses the hope that on resuming the reins of the Government of India His Lordship will treat Natives with consideration.

Lord Curzon.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

18. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 10th May (received on the 2nd June 1904), remarks that Western Science and Philosophy are proving the greatest enemies of Islam, and have spread irreligiousness throughout India. Darwin, Huxley, Tyndall and Comte are securing ready disciples in the country, and their pernicious teachings are spreading among Indian youths at an alarming pace. The Editor is afraid that if nothing is done to stem the tide the Prophet's faith is likely to be swept out of India before long.

Islam and Western Science and Philosophy.

VI.—Legislation.

The Official Secrets Act.

19. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 24th May 1904, publishes a communication the writer of which observes that every Government is compelled to keep some of its affairs secret, and that the present rulers of India are no exception. He is of opinion that the publication from time to time in certain fire-eating native newspapers of articles the appearance of which would have been tolerated by no responsible Government is at the bottom of the recent amendment of the Official Secrets Act. He cannot, on the other hand, lose sight of the fact that the liberty of speech and writing conferred on the people and the admission of natives into the Supreme and the Provincial Legislative Councils are intended to keep the rulers informed of the condition and requirements of the ruled. No one can deny, he adds, that man is liable to err, and that the officers of Government being human they cannot claim infallibility for themselves, while the mistakes committed by persons in authority affect the public more injuriously and cause the latter greater inconvenience than errors of judgment on the part of private individuals. He, therefore, regrets that Government should have turned a deaf ear to objections against certain of the amendments proposed in connection with the aforesaid Act. He concedes that Government's political and military secrets should be kept intact, but contends that no impartial person can deny the force of the arguments urged against the inclusion in the Act of clauses relating to civil affairs and Native States. It is a matter of regret, he goes on to say, that the Official Secrets Act should have been passed in its present form, and that there should be no power in India strong enough to bring about its repeal. He then suggests that the Committee (consisting of certain Editors and Proprietors of newspapers), appointed at the last session of the Muhammadan Educational Conference in pursuance of a resolution concerning the Native Press, should, in conjunction with other journalists and some "conferences," submit a well-reasoned memorial (copies thereof being sent to both Houses of Parliament) to the King-Emperor praying His Hajesty to restore the Act to its original form.

The same.

20. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 28th May 1904, also publishes an article deprecating the conduct of Government in amending the Act.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Muhammadans and the Marwar Infantry.

21. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 25th May 1904, says that it has received numerous letters protesting against the proposed reduction from four to two of the number of Muhammadan companies in the 24th Marwar Infantry (*vide* paragraph 13 of Selections No. 19). And the tone of the communications leaves no room for doubt that the martial spirit is not dead yet amongst the Prophet's followers. The Editor fails to see what has prompted Lord Kitchener in depriving Muhammadans of one of their established rights. The proposal, he adds, could not have been suggested by financial considerations, seeing that

the strength of the Marwar Infantry is to be increased from six to eight companies. After stating that Indian Musalmans are thoroughly loyal to the British Crown and that Muhammadan soldiers have never hesitated to fight even against their co-religionists in the defence of Government, the Editor expresses his inability to guess what has led the Government of India to injure the feelings of its Muhammadan subjects by making the reduction referred to.

The proposed one-anna coin.

22. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 30th May 1904, remarks that the proposed one-anna nickel silver piece is likely to be regarded with suspicion at first, seeing that the Natives of India are very conservative in the matter of currency. In course of time, however, the new coin will be certain to secure confidence and circulation.

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SELECTIONS

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The study of Urdu by Russian Military Officers.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 4th June 1904, announces that the Russian Consul at Bombay has subscribed to one copy of the paper for a year, the same to be despatched to the address of the Chief of the General Staff at Tashkend. For some time past, adds the Editor, Russian Officers have been studying Urdu, and it would seem that subscribing to the *Paisa Akhbar* is a result of this movement. A school for the study of Urdu was opened at Tashkend some time back.

Oppression of Pilgrims to the Hedjaz.

2. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st June 1904, after stating how pilgrims to the Hedjaz were fleeced and looted this year by the Sharif of Mecca and the Bedouins, suggests that Muhammadans should submit a representation to the Sultan through the British Government praying His Majesty to prevent a repetition of the scandal. In case nothing comes of the representation the Editor would advise his co-religionists to discontinue giving money for schemes hatched in Turkey. As to the Hedjaz Railway he alleges that several pilgrims have, on their return from Mecca, testified that no signs of the projected line are to be seen for about 1,000 miles from that city and Medina. He would therefore request the Prophet's followers to rate at their proper worth articles published in certain Vernacular newspapers asking for subscriptions in aid of that work.

The same.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th June 1904, writing on the some subject, blames both the Sharif and the Sultan for the state of affairs described.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The decision to close Cooper's Hill College.

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 3rd June 1904, expresses satisfaction at the decision to close Cooper's Hill Engineering College. The institution, adds the Editor, is one of those—scores in number—which are maintained at the cost of India for the benefit of Europeans. He then remarks that the Engineers required for service in India should be trained in this country and that Englishmen desirous of securing higher posts in the Public Works Department should undergo the necessary training at their own expense at other Engineering Colleges in England. He is of opinion that a first class Engineering College should be established in India, the children of the soil being freely admitted into it. As regards Military Engineers, they should be recruited as heretofore, the services of some of them being lent to the Department as long as it is considered inadvisable to appoint Natives to higher posts in large numbers. All posts of Executive Engineer and Superintending Engineer not held by the said Engineers should be given to the graduates of the suggested College. This, observes the Editor, will afford some relief to the Indian Exchequer without in any way injuring Government work. He further remarks that the people are very thankful to Mr. Brodrick for his decision to close Cooper's Hill College, and regrets that Lord Curzon, who professes sympathy for His Majesty's Native subjects, should have insisted on the institution being allowed to continue.

Lord Kitchener on Native Soldiers.

5. The *Public* (Ludhiana), of the 29th May 1904, says that Lord Kitchener has expressed the opinion that although Native troops possess several good qualities, they lack the power of initiative and cannot be trusted at critical moments. His Excellency's words, adds the Editor, are calculated to offend the feelings of the Sepoy, who has never hesitated to lay down even his life in the service of Government and has always performed efficiently whatever work has been entrusted to him. As regards Native Officers, they also have never given cause for complaint in respect of the discharge of their duties, and will prove equally successful if promoted to higher posts.

Europeans in India.

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th June 1904, writes :—

"The heat on the Indian plains assumes a tangible form in these days, and Europeans loudly complain of being roasted alive and curse this hell of a country from dawn to eve and from eve to dawn. Since they have decided to remain in hell for good, the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* advises such of them as are weathly to go home and the poor to go to the hills at least for two of the hottest months of the season. If the latter cannot afford to meet the expenses of a temporary sojourn on the hills, the people of India, who find the money for all their comforts and conveniences down here, will cheerfully vote for any expense for such a desirable object. If all of them go to the hills for two months, leaving the natives of the soil alone, the latter will be very glad to be able to breathe freely even for that short time. That is a deliverance which is worth any amount of money."

Official patronage in the matter of Government Service.

7. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 11th June 1904, writes :—

"The recent Resolution of the Government of India on the distribution of official patronage is another of those grandiloquent performances meant to throw dust in the eyes of the public with which the people of India have become so familiar during the

Curzonian regime. It is an illustration of the now trite statement that figures can be made to prove anything. All that the Resolution makes clear is that with the expansion of the administration and the opening of new avenues of employment, the number of natives, who are incomparably the largest community, has increased in a greater ratio in the public services than Europeans or Eurasians. Lord Curzon and his Secretaries might as well take pains to prove that, although the educated Indians insist on holding that the masses of their countrymen are getting more and more impoverished, these masses consume by far the largest proportion of food produced in the country. That the community which forms the bulk of the population, and compared with which numerically the Europeans and Eurasians form and infinitesimal fraction, should occupy the largest number of public appointments and draw the largest amount of pay, both in the average and the aggregate, is nothing to wonder at. Indeed, a different state of things would have been an absurdity that could not even be conceived of except in India, and that the Government has been at such pains to show that this is not so is only proof that the state of things renders such a misconception at least possible. It, however, does not serve Government's purpose much, if at all, to prove that the Natives are drawing the bulk of the Government salaries any more than it would indicate popular prosperity to prove that the Natives were consuming the largest quantity of food and other necessaries of life in the land. The question is, who are holding the bulk of the posts carrying high pay and commanding power and prestige; just as in the case of food consumption the question would be, who are living *upon the fat of the land*. The Government Resolution has only proved that the juicy kernel of the Indian public service is monopolised by a handful of Europeans, and that the large mass of Natives are left to draw as much nourishment as they can from the skin and bones."

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Christian Missionaries and Islam.

8. The *Hakam* (Qadian), of the 17th May (received on the 3rd June) 1904, says that Christian Missionaries constitute a source of danger to Islam. They invent all sorts of lies against the Prophet, and do not hesitate to distort the teachings of the Quran. Very large sums of money, adds the Editor, are raised in Europe and America to help them in the propagation of Christianity in India, while they do not care by what means, fair or foul, they gain their ends. Nor is this all. Famines, which have become chronic in this country, have also helped forward the cause, seeing that they have brought no less than 113,000 orphans into the Christian fold. Again, the number of books published by the various Missionary Societies in India against the Muhammadan religion alone comes to the tremendous figure of seven crores. To crown all, Missionary ladies are busy carrying the Gospel into the Zenana, so that while Natives of both sexes are being brought under the influence of Christianity, no one in India dare make a counter-move for fear of Government.

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

Education in India.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar*, of the 4th June 1904, remarks that the Government of India's recent report on the educational "progress" of the country during 1897—1901 should have been called "A Report on the *Decline* of Education in India." At all events, the figures embodied in the

publication point unmistakably to the conclusion that during the above-mentioned period education has been going downhill in India. After quoting extracts in support of his assertion, the Editor says that during the five years under report there was an increase of 3,215 in the number of College students, and that in 1901, 1,469 students obtained the B. A. degree as against 1,079 in 1896. This, he adds, shows clearly enough that the Natives of India are beginning to value higher education, remarking that this is the first step in the advancement of the country. He, however, regrets to have to record that there will be a falling off in the number of graduates in the next report to be issued by Government. This is no mere surmise on his part, but a forecast founded on the objectionable provisions of the Indian Universities Act. He then goes on to say that it also appears from the publication under review that female education made very little progress. The same may be said of Commercial and Technical education, there being not a single commercial school in the country of which one can speak with any approbation, while Technical institutes exist only in Government Resolutions. The Editor cannot say when the time is to come when the authorities will consider it expedient to act up to their Resolutions. He further remarks that trained teachers are one of the greatest educational needs of the country, and that the Report in question shows that some schools and one college have been established to supply the want. It would, however, seem that the latter, which has been located in the Bengal Presidency, is meant primarily for the benefit of Europeans. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that, having regard to Government's present indifference to the education of the people, there is nothing to be surprised at in the ignorance and poverty prevailing in the country.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

The plague.

10. The same paper, of the 3rd June 1904, says that some people are under the mistaken impression that it is Government which is spreading the plague in the country. The Editor has received a letter in Persian from a Pathan correspondent to this effect. The communication alleges that this fatal act on the part of Government has for its object the thinning out of the population and bringing out Englishmen to settle in the country instead. This, adds the Editor, affords sufficient proof of the fact that Natives have yet made very little progress, and that Government should be far more liberal in the matter of spreading education among them, so that enlightenment may uproot the false notions prevalent in the country. The *Paisa Akhbar*, he says, is not a flatterer, partisan or pensioner of the Government of India that it should, for the sake of the powers that be, endeavour to injure the people. Nor is it such a coward that it would, from the same motive, circulate a falsehood among the public. Nevertheless, a regard for truth and for the welfare of mankind (!), as also in justice to Government, he considers it his bounden duty to state that the British Government, which is very just and generous, can never be guilty of the mean act of spreading the plague in the country. Those who know how enlightened it is and that its motives are good, can never, for a single moment, entertain ridiculous ideas like this. In order to undeceive the opponents of Government, however, the Editor wishes

to remark that had it been in the power of Government to spread or stamp out the plague, Englishmen in India would not have fallen victims to the disease, nor would extraordinary efforts have been made to prevent its spreading to Simla, where Anglo-Indians live. Besides, if the English had the epidemic under their control, they would not have let it turn the capital of their country into a desert in the seventeenth century.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar*, of the 9th June 1904, says that time has shown that the Tibet "Mission" was a wolf in sheep's clothing. It has shed the blood of hundreds of Tibetans, who are veritable lambs in weakness, without the least compunction. The Editor adds that the British Government wishes to establish a protectorate over Tibet and appoint a Resident in the capital of that country, no matter how much blood and money it may cost. After remarking that there is very little difference in placing a country under a protectorate and annexing it, he observes that the fate which has befallen Egypt and Morocco fully illustrates his assertion. Several years ago England and France took the two countries named under their protection, but to-day those Powers are the virtual rulers of Egypt and Morocco respectively. Likewise if Great Britain once obtains a footing in Tibet, which is now a certainty, the country of the Lamas should thenceforth be considered as one of her possessions. But, asks the Editor, who will be the gainer thereby, India or England? After remarking that the event can benefit the latter alone, he expresses his inability to understand how Parliament has decided to charge to the revenues of this country the cost of this "bloody" Mission of Lord Curzon's. Poor India, he adds, has no mind to lift the *parda* of Tibet; and as she dislikes shedding blood from mere inquisitiveness, and as her poverty does not allow of her cheerfully consenting to pay for the massacre of the Tibetans, not a single Native sympathises with the object of the expedition. In conclusion the Editor remarks that both morality and justice demand that the cost of the expedition should be borne by the British Exchequer.

2. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th June 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer finds fault with the Tibetans for opposing the Mission, which, he says, is destined to prove the harbinger of enlightenment in Tibet. Being, besides, no match for the British forces, the Grand Lamas followers had better lay down their arms and sue for mercy before it is too late.

The same.

3. The same paper says that its article finding fault with Indian Muhammadans for their attitude towards the Hedjaz Railway (*vide* paragraph 3 of Selections No. 20) has not only been adversely criticised in certain newspapers, but that the Editor has received an anonymous postcard warning him to desist from opposing the scheme lest by doing so he should " excite " his brethren in faith. He, however, fails to see why Musalmans should get " excited " over the matter, and advises his anonymous correspondent to withdraw the remarks. No far-seeing Muhammadans, he adds, will be foolish enough to entertain the mischievous notion of supporting schemes concocted in Turkey, especially when their support is calculated to displease Government. He considers it of the first importance to the Prophet's followers in India that they should behave as peaceful and loyal subjects of Government, scrupulously abstaining from meddling in things with which they have no direct concern.

The Hedjaz Railway and Indian Musalmans.

(b)—Home.

4. One Tahawar writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 10th June 1904, remarks that the leading Vernacular newspapers in the country display greater interest in foreign affairs than in things concerning the people of India. As for the smaller fry, a reference to a Native State, for instance, will be found in the columns of only those, the Editors of which are under obligation to it or have some cause of complaint against it. A newspaper of which the Editor draws a pension from a State or has received presents from it on some public occasion will praise the administration or ruler of the State concerned. On the other hand, those, the gentlemen in Editorial charge whereof have had to suffer a slight owing to having gone to a State uninvited, or are not in receipt of a pension from it, or bear the State officials a grudge, are only too prone to malign it and find fault with its administration. The writer then goes on to say that the comfort and peace enjoyed by Indian Princes under the present *regime* were not even dreamt of by their forefathers. Indeed it is no exaggeration to say that as regards internal and external complications they are more free from anxiety than any other rulers of men in the world. It is, of course, true that they can live this happy life only as long as they can keep the Resident or the Commissioner pleased, and that their failure in this respect means humiliation and misery to them. After remarking that it should not be difficult for them to please one man, the correspondent regrets that instead of taking advantage of the present circumstances to mend their own ways and

Native Chiefs under British rule.

pay greater attention to the welfare of their subjects, Native Chiefs should become still more ease-loving and should seek recreation and pleasure in an increasing measure. To make matters worse, they have taken to paying frequent visits to Europe on the ground that the climate of India, in which country they were born and brought up, does not agree with their health. To cap all, during their trips to Europe they throw themselves headlong into pleasure and become wholly oblivious of their responsibilities and the wants of their subjects, imbibing at the same time strong feelings of aversion towards Native Society. They are neither tempted to introduce into their States the useful institutions seen by them in the West, nor does a realisation of the progress arts and letters have made in Europe create in their minds a desire to raise their people to a higher level of civilization. They learn nothing but the vices of Europe—extravagance, drinking and debauchery—and on their return to India spend the hard-earned money of their subjects in questionable ways. Besides, they are always sighing to see Europe again, and now and then manage to run back on the pretext of ill-health. This state of affairs, adds the Editor, is injurious to the interests of both Native Chiefs and their subjects.

The paucity of Muhammadans in Government service.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th June 1904, says that as several suitable Muhammadan candidates were available for the purpose, it was naturally expected that one of them would succeed Mr. Justice Amir Ali on the Bench of the Calcutta High Court. The Editor is, however, at a loss to understood why the Judgeship vacated by the gentleman named should have gone to a European, and that in the teeth of almost universal opposition on the part of the Native Press. He then refers to the appointment of the Hon'ble Dr. Mukerjee as Additional Judge of the above Court, and says that although he is not jealous of the honour conferred on the Doctor, he would respectfully point out to Government that Muhammadans had a prior claim to the post, as is admitted even by the Bengali newspapers.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

British relations with Kabul.

6. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 18th June 1904, writes :—

"There would seem to be suppressed significance in the report of the recent question and reply in Parliament regarding a proposed Mission to Kabul, which, if intended at all, could only be of the most friendly character, and would have never been construed otherwise were it not that Missions have acquired an ill-meaning since the Tibetan one. That there is perfect friendliness between the Amir and Government cannot rationally be doubted, and, rightly construed, a Mission to settle any dispute about the subsidy allowed the Amir would rather argue a solicitous feeling for a satisfactory arrangement. Any other interpretation could only be from the wish being father to the thought in the ill-disposed, whilst the recent interchange of courtesies on the occasion of the Amir's gun accident, and the service asked by and rendered to him, must have an effect of its own. With an autocratic ruler like the Amir, personal feeling counts for much in the settlement of State matters. One would wish that the despatch of Major Bird had been availed of to obviate the need of a separate Mission, which can only be useful as a demonstration of friendly commerce with Afghanistan, but which, as we have said, may suffer under the bad repute got from recent experience. It is, however, mischievous for a Calcutta Anglo-Indian

paper to talk of Missions ultimately becoming expeditions, as allusions of the kind from such quarters are likely to be regarded with suspicion. It is necessary that any misunderstanding regarding the subsidy, which can never be of benefit when prolonged, should be brought to an end; and if there is no way of doing so but by personal discussion with the Amir through British politicals, it must be done, and it is to be hoped that every appearance will be studied in order to import an air of undoubted friendliness and good-will, which is so necessary when the reverse will so easily be suspected."

(e).—Agriculture, &c.

The importance of agricultural education for India.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 10th June 1904, says the fact that about three-fourths of the people of India subsist on land should afford an index to the importance of agricultural education in the country. Up till very recent times, however, the country had not a single agricultural college worthy the name, while Japan, which does not possess India's natural advantages can boast of several important institutions worked on modern scientific lines. The blame for this, adds the Editor, lies with the people, who would rather starve on a pittance obtained in Government service than learn the sciences on which depends the progress and prosperity of the country. He then expresses satisfaction at Government interesting itself in the matter and establishing more than one agricultural college, of which that at Pusa promises to prove a very successful institution. He is, however, of opinion that a larger number of Native Professors well versed in Science should have been engaged for these Colleges. In conclusion, he remarks, that were the people to display greater interest in the revival of indigenous industries, they would before long be in a position to supply all their wants themselves.

(f).—Railways and Communications.

Inadequate arrangement for the supply of drinking water on the North-Western Railway.

8. The *Akhbar-i-Am* (Lahore), of the 13th June 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer complains that, owing to indifference on the part of the Station Masters, passengers cannot obtain drinking water on the North-Western Railway. Again, at not a few stations, watermen, both Hindu and Muhammadan, are not to be seen at their posts at night, or put in an appearance only when the train is about to start. This state of affairs is a source of great inconvenience to the travelling public, especially to women and to children of tender age. After remarking that recently a female passenger could not obtain a drop of water between Kharian and Muridke, the correspondent calls upon the Railway authorities to remedy the evil complained of. He also suggests that there should be separate watermen for duty during the day and at night.

A complaint in connection with the Gojra Railway Station.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1904, remarks that the ill-treatment accorded to the Native public by the Railway Department is perhaps a shade less gross, if at all, than that the people have to suffer at the hands of the Police. As a recent instance in point, the Editor says that for many days past lakhs of bags of wheat have been lying on the platform of the Gojra Railway Station. No waggons to carry them to their

destination are, however, forthcoming, with the result that the grain-dealers concerned are suffering a loss of thousands daily. The Editor understands that the traders in question have sent several letters and telegrams to the Manager and Traffic Superintendent of the North-Western Railway on the subject, but that no action has yet been taken on them. He would like to know whether the officers named would not have cared to redress the complaint if it had emanated from Europeans or Eurasians. He is convinced that, let alone leading merchants among them, if the party in question had been even an ordinary Eurasian passenger prompt steps would have been taken for the safe custody of his things, although they might not have exceeded Rs. 5 in value. He is not exaggerating in pointing out the inviduous distinction made in the matter of redressing the grievances of European and Native passengers respectively, and can refer to scores of incidents in support of his assertion occurring daily. He then goes on to say that some time back he congratulated the North-Western Railway on having ordered carriages fitted with electric light and electric punkha-pulling machines, although he took care to add that the innovation was intended for the convenience of the European travelling public. It is a matter for deep regret, he adds, that the Railway should be so mindful of the comfort of white passengers, but should not pay the least attention to the convenience and interests of the children of the soil. Should the Railway authorities concerned try to excuse themselves in connection with the congestion of traffic at Gojra by pleading that a sufficient number of goods wagons are not available, the Editor would like to know why they have ordered the carriages referred to. He is of opinion that they should have procured wagons to meet the requirements of Native traders.

(*g*)—*Postal matters.*

A Postal complaint.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 14th June 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the mails despatched from Lala Musa in the trains which leave that station at 11-30 A. M. and 3-4 P. M. reach Rawalpindi at 7 and 8 P. M. respectively. As, however, there is no delivery at the latter place after 6 P. M., the letters, &c., received after that hour are not distributed till the following day. In this way a letter posted at Lala Musa at 4 P. M. is delivered to the addressee at Rawalpindi on the third day. After remarking that the existing arrangements entail considerable inconvenience on the public, the correspondent suggests that the mails should be despatched in the train which leaves Lala Musa at 2-38 A. M. and reaches Rawalpindi at 8-43.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Has crime increased under British rule.

11. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 10th June 1904, remarks that India is now under a more liberal Government and enjoys greater freedom than was the case in former times. A comparison between the oppressive practices of the past and the laws now in force in the country, however, makes one exclaim involuntarily: "The tyrannical past was far better than the peaceful present." The justification for such an exclamation lies in the fact that in pre-British days liars, deceivers and impostors were very severely dealt with.

Now, however, adequate punishment is not inflicted on the guilty, with the result that lying is greatly on the increase in this country. Nay, it has become a sort of profession, because of which the people are subjected to great hardships. The Editor adds that it has become a common practice to give false evidence, collect bribes in the name of Magistrates and Judges, publish misleading advertisements in order to fleece the public, trump up cases, &c.,—offences the existence of which constitutes a foul blot on the administration of Criminal Justice in India. He further remarks that the persons who pursue the above callings can browbeat even the nobility, and would turn upon even the Police should the last named interfere with them. In conclusion he says that generally speaking it is the ill-behaved sons of *Raises* who levy bribes in the name of the Magistracy and thereby bring discredit on officers entrusted with the administration of justice.

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Nil.

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SELECTIONS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 17th June 1904, remarks that affairs in Tibet are becoming complicated, and consequently special steps are being taken to ensure secrecy. Questions in Parliament elicit only laconic answers, while Colonel Younghusband keeps a sharp eye on the Press correspondents with the expedition. This would show that Government wishes to proceed very cautiously, and is anxious not to strain its relations with either China or Russia. On the other hand, the Tibetans would weight Government with some great responsibility, as is clear from their replying to all questions through the Chinese Amban. The Tibetan problem is, therefore, likely to be prolonged in solution, and has come to assume the form of an intellectual contest, although the fighting has not been suspended and reinforcements continue to be sent from India.

The Tibet Mission.

2. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 20th June 1904, says that all England is sorry about the foolishness of the Lamas, who have made a mountain out of a mole-hill and are sacrificing the lives of thousands of Tibetans. Government is not, however, to blame for the bloodshed, for it had given the Lamas clearly to understand that the object of the Tibet Mission was a peaceful one. It could not of course allow Tibet to be brought under Russian influence, seeing that the country named is only about 300 miles from Calcutta. After remarking that the Tibetans themselves are responsible for the conversion of the Mission into an expedition, the Editor says that some one may accuse him of supporting Government in attacking a weak neighbour. He would, however, like to know whether there is a single power which will take the side of the weak. Is it not true, he asks, that while the whole of Europe raises a loud outcry in the event of a single Christian Missionary being assaulted in China, Turkey, Persia or Morocco, no notice is taken of the

The same.

massacre of the Jews in Russia, of the atrocities committeed in the Congo Free State, or of the oppression practised in the German and French Colonies? In conclusion, he remarks that it is absolutely wrong to say that earth hunger or a desire to shed blood has prompted Government to send an expedition to Tibet.

The Anglo-French Agreement.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 11th June 1904, says that the *Al-Falah* disputes the validity of the Anglo-French Agreement on the ground that no compact concerning Egypt can be legal unless the Sultan is a party to it. It adds that the Egyptians resent the "happy family" agreement arrived at concerning their country and decline to regard the agreement as binding on themselves, although their protest can avail them nothing. Had Muhammad Ali VII, opines the paper named, been even half as loyal to Turkey as his fellow-countrymen, the fate of Egypt would have been far different from what it is to-day. The Egyptian nobility and other sections of the population have, for some time past, been actuated by selfish motives. Indeed, were this not so, the fact of their country having been constantly menaced by a foreign power would not have failed to produce a second Arabi Pasha. It is, however, a matter for satisfaction, says the *Al-Falah*, that the Egyptians have at last come to realise, through whatever causes, that without unity their very national existence is in danger. On the other hand, the Sultan is not likely to forego his rights in the Lands of the Pharaohs and may be depended upon to devise some direct and effective method of safeguarding them. The *Al-Falah* then considers the occupation of Egypt by England from a moral point of view, and says that now that peace has been restored in the country, which was the object in view, the English ought to evacuate the land without delay. It concludes by expressing the hope that when the duplicity which characterises the agreement in question has been exposed to the European Powers, they will be certain to help the Sultan in enforcing his rights.

Commenting on the above the Editor remarks that the *Al-Falah* is reckoning without its host, and is probably unaware of Mr. Balfour's remark that the British soldier stays where he once sets foot.

Turkish affairs.

4. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th June 1904, remarks that the fact of Turkey being surrounded by people differing from the Turks in race and religion demands that the Sultan should note the changes taking place around him. He should also be very careful in the selection of his counsellors and should not repose too much confidence in his servants. After remarking that the disloyalty and treachery of Turkish officers was mainly responsible for the defeat sustained by Turkey at the hands of Russia in 1878, the Editor regrets that Abdul Hamid should not have taken warning from this fact and have continued to trust men who not infrequently leave him in the lurch at critical times. The oppressive treatment of pilgrims to the Hedjaz by the Bodouins and the Sharif of Mecca goes to show that His Majesty is a very weak or a very careless ruler. The Editor has no doubt that if the present state of affairs continues much longer, Turkey will, to a certainty, share the fate which has overtaken China, whose present wretched condition is traceable to her perfidious public servants.

5. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th June 1904, remraks that the proposed Hedjaz Railway is calculated to confer many material benefits on Arabia, and prove of great political service to the Turkish Empire. Above all, it will facilitate pilgrimage to the Hedjaz, for which alone the entire Muhammadan world should feel deeply grateful to the Sultan. It is, therefore, to be regretted that some narrow-minded and short-sighted flatterers should not have abstained from opposing even the praiseworthy movement in question. Some time back the Editor showed these worthies in their true colours and tore to tatters the arguments used by them which ought to have silenced them for ever. Their flattering disposition has, however, proved too strong for them and, in their desire to pose as loyal subjects of Government and curry favour with the authorities, they have renewed their attacks against the project and its supporters. Hitherto the efforts to make the Prophet's followers regard the scheme with suspicion have, as a general rule, emanated from Christians, in whom such a thing does not look surprising. The conduct, however, of a man professing Islam and regarding pilgrimage to Mecca as a religious obligation (the reference is to the Editor of the *Wafadar Dehli Punch*) in obstructing the work and preventing people from giving money for it, calls for severe condemnation from all thinking and just people. The Editor then endeavours to show that the Hedjaz Railway scheme is not a "bubble" and that giving contributions in its aid is no violation of the teachings of the Quran. He adds that had the critic in question been aware how intriguing and designing European Powers are, and had he before writing his criticism taken note of the designs certain of her enemies have on Arabia, as also of the methods they are following to gain their end, he would have realised that to help forward the construction of the proposed Railway was to render the greatest service to Islam. The Editor adds that the authorities are not so narrow-minded, bigoted and short-sighted as to feel displeased with Muhammadans for collecting subscriptions in aid of the Railway in question.

The Hedjaz Railway.

6. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 13th June 1904, remarks that it was highly undignified on the part of the Turkish Government to "send round the hat" for subscriptions in aid of the Hedjaz Railway. The Editor adds that the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* is publishing a series of articles to throw light on the subject, and expresses a hope that that paper will prevent Indian Muhammadans from giving money for an imaginary project, if the scheme is really a bubble. In this connection he wishes to point out that the funds raised in India for the wounded Cretan Musalmans were misappropriated by a Turkish impostor.

The same.

7. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th June 1904, says that the conduct of Indian Muhammadans in collecting subscriptions in aid of the Sultan is not only based upon a mistaken idea but is objectionable from a political of view. The Editor is, however, willing to publish communications in refutation of the above view, provided they are supported by quotations from the Quran and the Traditions and are couched in becoming language. After remarking that as a true Musalman and a loyal subject of

The same.

Government he considers it a duty to warn his co-religionists in the matter, he calls upon the Ulemas, &c., to decide once for all whether the present attitude of the Prophet's followers towards the Sultan is in keeping with the tenets of Islam.

(b)—Home.

Official patrontage in the matter of Government Service.

8. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 17th June 1904, remarks that the recent Resolution of the Government of India on the distribution of official patronage cannot convince the children of the soil. Natives, adds the Editor, take note not only of the number of appointments held by them, but of the amount of salary allowed them. The majority of the low-paid appointments in the public service of the country must always be in the hands of the people, for the reason that foreigners, especially extravagant Europeans, will not come out on Rs. 100 or Rs. 150 a month. The question is,—"Who hold the largest number of posts, each of which carries a salary equal to those drawn by fifty Native servants of Government?" Lord Curzon himself created several highly-paid appointments; but how many of them did he give to the children of the soil? Besides, how many Natives succeeded European Officers during his Lordship's tenure of office?

Invidious distinction between Native and European Soldiers.

9. A Subathu correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 18th June 1904, says that it is an admitted fact that all classes of Native troops are brave and thoroughly devoted to the Crown, and that Government is highly pleased with them; which is as it should be, seeing that they are its strongest bulwark in India. The Sepoy is an object of adulation with the powers that be, and has been loaded with silver and bronze medals. The question, however, whether Government has gone beyond mere words of praise and has done anything material for the troops aforesaid must be answered in the negative. After asking whether the valuable services rendered by the soldiers in question should not be suitably rewarded, the writer says that even the "illiterate and thick-headed" have come to realise Government's indifference in the matter. It is unfair, he adds, that Government should always be mindful of the welfare of Thomas Atkins, but should refuse to pay any thought to the lot of Jack Sepoy. Is it not a shame, he asks, that European soldiers should live like sons of *Raises*, while their Native comrades are paid coolies' wages of four or five annas a day? After remarking that he does not consider it just that the latter should be made to fight and die while the former enjoy themselves, the correspondent endeavours to show that whereas each British Soldier costs Government about Rs. 70 a month, Native Soldiers are paid only Rs. 10 per head per mensem.

Lord Curzon.

10. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th June 1904, remarks that Lord Curzon, who in India sat on the throne of the Moghals and to whom proud Rajput and Musalman Princes rendered obeisance, is but an ordinary person in London and no one troubles himself about his comings and goings. Here the sons of Native Chiefs considered it an honour to ride by him like orderlies, and he was always escorted by a strong Military guard, but in England His Lordship cannot even dream of such things. The Editor adds that, with the exception of the *Times*, all London newspapers have made

unfavourable remarks about the *ex*-Viceroy(!). Some complain that he has sown the seed of discord between the rulers and the ruled, while others hold him responsible for the fighting and bloodshed in Tibet. The Editor likens Lord Curzon's rule to that of Lord Dufferin: the latter conquered Burma and thereby extended the British Empire in India, whilst the former has laid the foundation of the annexation of Tibet. Government of course emphatically denies that it wishes to annex the land of the Lamas, but circumstances may compel it to go against its inclinations. In conclusion, the Editor remarks that Lord Curzon's boastful assertion, that with the exception of the Romans, no conquering nation has ever treated the subject races with the liberality which characterises the British, has been challenged by one of his own fellow-countrymen.

British rule in India.

11. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th June 1904, says that Natives should feel thankful to God that the reins of the government of their country are in the hands of liberal and generous rulers. After referring to some of the advantages British rule has conferred on the people, the Editor observes that India is by no means a poor country, seeing that although not as rich as England, she can still hold her own with not a few European countries. Besides, he adds, the liberty of speech and writing enjoyed by his fellow-countrymen is a boon which does not ordinarily fall to the lot of a conquered people. He then refers to the Congress demand regarding the throwing open of all posts in the public service to the children of the soil, and suggests that the highest administrative appointments should always be held by Englishmen.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Presents to the Amir from the Sharif of Mecca.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 13th June 1904, says that the *Pioneer* reports that the Amir has recently received from the Sharif of Mecca holy presents, consisting of small flags embroidered with verses from the Quran, and insinuates that such emblems were formerly carried by the Turks whenever they entered upon a *jehad*. This, adds the Editor, would show that, in spite of its wonted knowledge of India and other Eastern countries, the Allahabad daily knows very little. In making the above remarks the *Pioneer* has not only betrayed its ignorance, but has helped to mislead the English and the Anglo-Indian public. The things of which it speaks as "flags" are only small pieces of the covering of the shrine at Mecca which pilgrims carry back as holy mementoes. It is possible that in olden times the Turks used to carry to the battle-field flags embroidered with verses from the Quran, just as Christians were in the habit of planting the Cross where battles were fought. This, however, does not prove that just as the Pope consecrated banners in days of yore, the Sharif of Mecca is the moving spring of some Military organization of the present day. After remarking that references to the covering of the Mecca Shrine are to be found in at least a hundred English books, the Editor says that the Amir being the defender of one of the approaches to India, it is unwise to distrust His Highness and entertain hostile designs on his country.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—1-7-01—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 1904.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Punjab Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 copies.
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	300 „
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	350 copies.
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 „
6	Punjab Chronicle ...	Mooltan ...	M. Baksey & Sons ...	...
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
7	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	3,200 copies.
8	Paisa Akbbar ...	Do. ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	...
9	Victora Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	600 copies.
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
10	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Muhammad ...	1,500 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
11	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	...
	WEEKLY.			
12	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Balwant Rai ...	500 copies.
13	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 „
14	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	...
15	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	1,400 copies.
16	Bharat ...	Sialkot ...	Sundar Lal ...	...
17	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	400 copies.
18	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,450 copies.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 1904—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
19	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,721 copies.
20	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	450 „
21	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	500 „
22	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,570 „
23	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	...
24	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Husain ...	150 copies.
25	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	100 „
26	Khair Khah-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	30 „
27	Koh-i-Nur ...	Lahore ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 „
28	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 „
29	Muhazzab ...	Gujranwala ...	Muhammad Shuja Ullah	...
30	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 „
31	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,000 „
32	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 „
33	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Bishen Singh ...	500 „
34	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal ...	650 „
35	Public Magazine ...	Amritsar ...	Harji Ram ...	...
36	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 copies.
37	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	3,200 „
38	Review ...	Do. ...	Mahbub Beg, B.A. ...	...
39	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	300 copies.
40	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ula ...	360 „
41	Do. ...	Rewari ...	Maqbul Hussain ...	...
42	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Hari Kishen ...	600 copies.

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	URDU—CONCLUDED.			
	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
43	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	600 copies.
44	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	450 „
45	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mrs. Mumtaz Ali ...	240 „
46	Taj-ul-Akhbar ...	Rawalpindi ...	Jiwa Ram ...	500 „
47	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,960 „
48	Wafadar Dehli Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 „
49	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,400 „
50	Zamindar ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	500 „
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
51	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	500 copies.
	MONTHLY.			
52	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 copies.
53	Ishut-ul-Quran ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Chettu ...	...
54	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Do. ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 copies.
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
55	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 copies.

[Confidential]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 26.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 2nd July 1904.

I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 24th June 1904, questions the expediency of despatching an expedition against Tibet, and says that not a few public men in Great Britain are opposed to the step. These gentlemen are of opinion that instead of adding to the British Empire, Government should consolidate and better the position of its existing possessions. After remarking that no one had any doubt as to the true character of the Tibet "Mission," the Editor observes that it will be very difficult to make up the loss which Lord Curzon's unjustifiable interference in Tibetan affairs has already caused Government and is likely to cause it in the future. He adds that the despatch of the "Mission" has lent considerable weight to the charge preferred against the *ex*-Viceroy in "The Failure of Lord Curzon" that His Excellency is egotistical, self-willed and fond of war.

The "Yellow Peril."

2. The same paper says that the defeats inflicted by Japan on Russia have led a class of politicians in Europe to raise the cry of a "Yellow Peril." The worst of it is that the cry has been taken up even in England, whose relations with Japan are of the friendliest. Only recently Sir Alfred Lyall read a paper before the Central Asian Society, London, discussing the political condition of certain Asiatic Countries. In the course of his remarks the *ex*-Lieutenant-Governor of the United Provinces professed sympathy for, and claimed kinship with, Russia as against the Mikado's country, an incident at which even a paper like the *Pioneer* has expressed surprise. Sir Alfred Lyall, adds the Editor, is one of those public men whose views on Eastern questions carry great weight; and it is to be regretted that an enlightened and thoughtful gentleman of his stamp should not have been able to steer clear of religious bigotry and racial prejudices. After publishing the substance of the paper referred to, he says that the author thereof seems to think that

Europe has a monopoly to spread civilisation and enlightenment in Asia, and that no civilised Asiatic nation has a right to undertake the task. And when selfish and conceited Europe does not admit Asiatic Powers' claims to their own countries, there is nothing surprising in its hostility to the Sultan and his Muhammadan subjects. The Editor further remarks that religious bigotry is at the bottom of the outcry against the Turks, and that charges of oppression against the Porte are being made merely with the object of weakening Turkey. Among those guilty of this conduct are the Czar, the Kaiser, the British Premier, the King of Greece and others.

The same.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th June 1904, says that the note of alarm sounded by certain European writers over the progress made by Japan in not quite meaningless. Only recently the London correspondent of the *Novœ Vremya*, in the course of a lecture delivered by him before the Central Asian Society, drew special attention to the fact that the moral influence exercised by Japanese advancement is being perceptibly felt not in China alone, but in British India, Persia, and several other parts of Asia. The number of students, he adds, attracted by the Japanese Universities was daily on the increase, there being no less than 400 Chinese, 108 Indians and 32 Nepalese young men now in Japan excluding several students from Persia, Afghanistan, Burma and Arabia. The Editor cannot, however, believe that any students from the three last countries are to be found in Japan, while the number of Indian students also appears to have been exaggerated. Nevertheless, he cannot deny that the Eastern nations in general, and the Chinese in particular, are being influenced by the example of Japan. Indeed, the fact of a daily increasing number of Chinese young men going to Europe and America to study denotes an awakening in the Celestial Empire. And if China profits by the lesson taught her by Japan and arms her soldiers with modern weapons, she will undoubtedly become a great menace to Europe.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon.

4. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 20th June 1904, in reviewing Lord Curzon's Viceroyalty, says that His Lordship has belied the expectations the people had of him. During his tenure of office he has done more for his own nation than for the people committed to his charge—nay, far from making any new concession to them, he has deprived them of the few privileges they previously possessed. For instance, instead of being allowed to own land in foreign countries, certain classes of the people have been denied the right to acquire it even in their native country. Nor is this all. The amended Official Secrets Act has muzzled the Indian Press far more effectually than Mr. Chalmers' law of sedition could ever have done. Again, the saving in life and money effected through Lord Curzon abandoning the "forward policy" have been counterbalanced by the despatch of the "Mission" to Tibet, while the Delhi Darbar threw an unnecessary burden on the Indian Exchequer. In these circumstances, adds the Editor, it is natural that Natives should not be anxious for His Lordship's return to their country.

5. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 22nd June 1904, publishes a long review of the Government of India Resolution on this subject which winds up as follows :—

The Public Services and the Natives of India.

"These are briefly all the points discussed in the Resolution, and the conclusions arrived at are certainly incontrovertible. But apart from the objects for which the enquiry was instituted, its results lead one to the consideration of another point of no less importance. This is as regards the employment of Muhammadans in the public service. A statement appended to the Resolution shows the number of posts held and the total pay drawn by Muhammadans, which is given here and which may very well be characterised as terribly below those in the case of other communities : —

	Number of posts held.	*Total pay drawn.* Rs.
"Europeans	... 6,408	44,90,817
"Eurasians	... 5,485	10,55,625
"Hindus	... 14,202	28,45,538
"Muhammadans	... 2,173	4,26,175

These figures do not include posts carrying pay under Rs. 75 per mensem, and it is notorious that the number of Muhammadans in this grade is deplorably small. If all the appointments in the public service be taken into account, it will convince any disinterested observer that the Muhammadans are the greatest sufferers in this respect. Whatever may have been the causes of this small representation of the community in the public service, it is no use discussing now. But it is re-assuring to find that Government appears to have already realized the situation. This was naturally to be expected, for no rule can be happy or prosperous unless all classes subject to it are equally happy and contented. But as, in spite of repeated instructions from Government on the subject, no appreciable improvement has yet been effected in this respect, it would seem that to redress the long-standing grievance some other and better measures require to be adopted in order to ensure compliance with the wishes of the Government. The allegation that competent Muhammadans are not forthcoming in sufficient numbers for appointments in Government service cannot now be admitted. They are now available in more than sufficient numbers and it requires only a will and an effort to procure them.

"Now that a strict and searching enquiry has proved, if any further proof was required, that the grievance of the Muhammadan community is genuine, and the question of proportionate employment of different communities has been raised, it seems to be time that some definite rules and scale were laid down as regards the number of appointments that should be held by the different communities in the various public Departments. Separate rules and scale may be prescribed for each Province, based on local conditions, political considerations, as well as the total population of each class inhabiting the Province concerned. Small deviations from the prescribed rules and scale may be permitted and they may be made liable to revision from time to time as occasion may require. It is, of course, not necessary that the scale laid down should be acted up to at once by turning out the present incumbents of posts in excess of the scale and replacing them by new men belonging to the class inadequately represented. The scale can be worked up to gradually as vacancies occur, the class in the minority being given preference to fill them. Such rules will not only secure the proper distribution of public appointments among all communities, but will also prevent any community from gaining an undue share or losing a proper share in Government service, through the idosyncrasies or racial prejudices of individual officers, as has unfortunately been the case in the past. And above all when such rules and scale have been prescribed, no one will find it easy to charge Government with a ban of exclusion against any community."

III—Native States.

Hyderabad affairs.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st June 1904, regrets that the premier Native State of India—Hyderabad—which possesses the capabilities of becoming a second Japan, should show signs of making downhill progress. Its political control has passed into the hands of outsiders, the Berars are lost to it, its nobility are steeped in debt and its budgets show deficits of lakhs of rupees. Again, almost all the higher posts are held by Europeans, who will be certain to monopolise the rest of these appointments in course of time. To make matters worse, those solicitous of the welfare of the State have no hand in its administration, and theirs is literally a cry in the wilderness.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Arya Samaj movement.

7. Pandit Ram Bhaj Datt, B.A., a Pleader at Lahore, writing to the *Hitkari* (Amritsar), of the 17th June 1904, endeavours to show that the Arya Samaj is not a political body, a fact which, he says, has been admitted even by Government in its Census Reports. He regrets that in a recent issue of his *Sat Dharam Parcharak* Lala Munshi Ram should have published a communication insinuating that the Samaj dabbles in politics.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The plague.

8. The *Wakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd June 1904, says that the plague has carried off an immense number of Punjabis and rendered labourers and recruits for the Army scarce in the Province. The Editor asks whether it becomes an enlightened Government like the British to follow a policy of indifference at such a juncture. It is high time, he adds, that the authorities reconsidered their plague policy and exerted themselves towards discovering the true causes of the disease. So long as this is not done, Government cannot claim to have discharged its duty towards the people.

Muhammadans and the Public Service of Baluchistan.

9. The same paper of the 20th June 1904 says that there is a great paucity of Muhammadans in the public service of Baluchistan. Many posts of responsibility are held by Hindus, and the latter are not only pitchforking their own kith and kin into service, but are trying to turn out the few Muhammadans working in subordinate posts in Government Offices. It is, however, gratifying to learn that the present Chief Commissioner of Baluchistan seems determined to put an end to the complaint and has recently issued orders on the subject. The Editor then advises his co-religionists to take advantage of the present favourable opportunity and apply for employment in Baluchistan, taking care to see that their applications reach the hands of the officer concerned.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—7-7-04—70.

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 27.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 9th July 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1904, writes :—

"'We have captured the Jong. . . . Another stirring story is added to the annals of Indian Frontier warfare.' As the telegraphic account published elsewhere shows, our troops, both British and Indian, performed prodigies of valour. The Tibetans defended their positions with the utmost gallantry and determination. They fired their jingals which, however, apparently hurt nobody and hurled stones, one of which struck a British officer, but did him little injury. The seven thousand Tibetans were scattered like chaff by our five thousand soldiers, although they fought with desperate courage to the last. This glorious feat of arms, which will shed everlasting lustre on British valour, was achieved with a loss of one British officer and half a dozen men (including killed and wounded on our side), while hundreds of Tibetans bit the dust. Such a display of our irresistible might will no doubt strike terror for ever into the hearts of not only the ascetic recluses in the Tibetan monasteries and the Theocratic rulers at Lhassa, but have a salutary effect on all Asiatic and African races which harbour or may come to harbour evil intentions against the Empire on which the Sun never Sets. The wires have by now flashed the glorious news of the storming and capture of Gyantse to all parts of the globe, making the hearts of all true-hearted Britons in Canada, South Africa, Australasia and other parts of our world-wide Empire thrill with triumphant joy at British prestige, which was so threatened if not shaken in Central Tibet, being once more re-established, thanks to the wisdom of our statesmen and zeal and devotion of our soldiers.

"With the road to Lhassa now lying invitingly open before the Mission, is it surprising that they are loath to return before making the Dalai Lama himself tremblingly sue for peace at his gun-scarred and blood-bespattered palace gate. Why, there is something as brilliant as romantic in the idea of once for all 'lifting the Purdah' of the holy city, as the *Pioneer* elegantly puts it. For ages the Dalai Lama has been worshipped as a divinity by millions on millions of fellow-mortals. No one but his votaries have ever been permitted into the sacred Presence, nay, even allowed to set foot in the precincts of the immense pile in which he lives surrounded by an army of Budhistic devotes and religious and secular dignitaries. To make *him* attend a *Darbar* at Lhassa as if he was a common Indian Prince, abjectly pray for forgiveness for his and his

people's recalcitrancy, and solemnly bind himself to pay unquestioning obedience to British behests—why, there is somthing grand and inspiring in the very thought which the dense-headed friends of peace are incapable of imagining. Fancy one who is a 'man-god' to one-quarter of Asiatics coming to Colonel Younghusband as a supplicant! And as to his subjects and followers, well, they may spill their blood like water and fight on with 'the desperation of wild cats at bay' (as a special correspondent characterised Tibetan courage), but they can *not* in any way stand in the way of our advance. It is most likely, therefore, that the peace delegates may have to go back sadder but wiser men, and the Mission may continue its irrestible advance on to Lhassa."

Indian Muhammadans, the Sultan and the Hedjaz Railway.

2. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd June 1904, alleges that it has received another anonymous communication in which the writer, after remarking that the Sultan is also the Caliph of Musalmans, says that the Hedjaz Railway being intended for the convenience of pilgrims to Mecca and Medina it is the duty of every Musalman to contribute his mite towards it. The Editor cannot subscribe to these views, and observes that although, as guardian of the Holy Cities, the Sultan commands the respect of the entire Muhammadan world, still His Majesty cannot rightly be styled Caliph. No clear-headed Indian Musalman should, for a single moment, entertain the erroneous view contained in the letter under reference, whatever some of his weak-minded brethren in faith may say to the contrary. In regard to the Hedjaz Railway scheme—as to the successful ending of which the Editor is very much in doubt—he would not have it looked upon as a religious undertaking, based as it is on purely commercial principles and political considerations.

The same.

3. A correspondent writing to the same paper says that even if the Railway in question is ever constructed it will benefit pilgrims from India to a very small extent, *viz.*, it will merely facilitate their journey between Jedda and Mecca and between the latter place and Medina. The engineering difficulties in the way of connecting the said cities by railway are, however, so great as to be almost insuperable. And even if they are overcome, the extension of the line through the tract lying between Damascus and Basrai will be obstinately resisted by the whole Bedouin population, whose sole means of earning a livelihood is to supply camels for pilgrims to the Hedjaz. Add to this the fact that the Sharif of Mecca is also interested in thwarting the project, and the impossibility of the whole thing becomes only too patent. In these circumstances, adds the writer, it is simply a waste of money on the part of Indian Musalmans to subscribe towards the Hedjaz Railway Fund.

(*b*)—*Home.*

British rule in India.

4. A correspondent writing to the *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st July 1904, says that under British rule India is growing richer, and not poorer as some persons would make people believe. After remarking that in these days even coolies "can afford to wear wrist watches, &c.," he asks whether a man in want of the necessaries of life could afford to indulge in luxuries. He adds that the construction of canals, &c., in the

country has helped the zamindars to grow rich. Indeed, but for their unusual prosperity under the present *régime* they could not have contracted litigious and extravagant habits. In conclusion, the writer remarks that it is to the interests of the country that all posts of trust and importance should be held by Europeans, who not only turn out efficient officers, but are polite and considerate to all.

Vernacular Newspapers and Government.

5. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st July 1904, regrets that instead of confining their criticism within legitimate bounds some vernacular newspapers should inveigh recklessly against Government. For instance, it says, in an article headed "Natives and Japan" the *Panja-i-Faulád* says that the marvellous progress made by Japan is ascribable to her Government, and asks whether the Government of India is as anxious about the people moving forwards? It insinuates that Natives should hope for no good at the hands of their present rulers. The Editor does not agree with the *Panja-i-Faulád*, and makes bold to say that the advantages the country has derived from British rule never fell to its lot under any other Government. He then takes the paper in question to task for publishing remarks calculated to set the people against Government.

Lord Curzon.

6. The *Hamdard-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 25th June 1904, says that, however highly some English newspapers may praise Lord Curzon, the Native public, whose opinion is based on personal experience, rate His Lordship's Viceroyalty at its proper worth. The *Daily Telegraph*, for example, compares the *ex*-Viceroy to Lord Dalhousie, although in not a few respects these two personages differ as widely as poles. As an instance in point it may be stated that while the latter wished to spread high education among Natives and favoured the appointment of educated children of the soil to the higher posts, the former has followed a diametrically opposite policy. It is, therefore, natural that the people should not desire Lord Curzon's return to India.

Official patronage in the matter of Government Service.

7. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 1st July 1904, says that one of the grievances of the Native Press againt Government is the alleged partiality shown to Europeans in the matter of appointments in the public service. The Government of India's recent Resolution on the subject, however, has completely rebutted the charge and proved the complaint to be wholly unfounded. The Editor, therefore, expresses the hope that instead of harping on imaginary grievances, vernacular papers will in future spend their energies more profitably.

Muhammadans and Government Service.

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 29th June 1904, says that there is not now a single Muhammadan on the bench of the Calcutta High Court, Mr. Justice Amir Ali having been succeeded by a European and the newly-created Additional Judgeship having gone to Dr. Asutosh Mukerji. After remarking that the last-named gentleman by no means possesses rare abilities and that far abler men are to be found among both Hindus and Muhammadans, the Editor observes that the Prophet's followers do not feel the least sorrow

at their helplessness and the disregard of their claims. They are accustomed to seeing Europeans step into the shoes of Native Judges, a sight which has been witnessed at Calcutta as well as Madras. They even saw Mr. Justice Banerji elevated to the place vacated by the late Mr. Mahmud, while they find that the only Native on the highest judicial tribunal in the Punjab is Mr. Justice Chatterji. Can any one, however fine-drawn his political logic and however persuasive his tongue, convince them that the absence of Muhammadans on the benches of the Allahabad High Court and the Punjab Chief Court is not a disadvantage to them ? From the standpoint of ability, adds the Editor, Mr. Banerji is by no means a fit successor to Mr. Mahmud ; while as regards numbers, although the majority of the Moslem population reside in Bengal, the United Provinces and the Punjab, there is not a single Muhammadan Judge in the highest Court of Justice in any of these parts of the country. He further remarks that his co-religionists have been labouring under this disadvantage for years past, and have come to regard the existing state of affairs as a matter of course. They have, therefore, no complaint to make in connection with the appointment of Dr. Mukerji. They would, however, like to know what is Government's conception of justice. Dr. Mukerji is the same gentleman who used extremely strong language towards Government in connection with the Universities Act, and his opposition has been rewarded by the bestowal of a Judgeship. After enquiring what conclusion the whole incident leads to, the Editor says that such occurrences create a feeling of surprise among the Prophet's followers, who will not, however, open their lips. All that they can say is that even a supernatural power, let alone the " human Government of India," cannot make them imitate the Hindu critics of Government in order to gain selfish ends. They decided in 1885, after very careful consideration, that they would never make insulting attacks on Government, however injurious this might prove to them from a political point of view. Government is at liberty to appreciate such attacks and be frightened at the threats held out to it, thereby encouraging other communities (to follow the example of its present critics). This cannot, however, move Muhammadans : it is not in their nature to benefit themselves by insulting and intimidating their rulers. They may regret Government's policy, weep over their bad luck, laugh contemptuously at the moral cowardice of the British public and warmly congratulate Hindus (*lit.* " their friends ") on the success of their tactics, but it is impossible for them to resort to incivility and impudence in order to become the object of Government's attention and secure the highest posts under it. And this for the reason that they still retain a sense of the duty due to Kings. Whenever, therefore, their hearts are moved their sympathies will invariably be on the side of the present rulers of the country.

The National Congress.

9. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 6th July 1904, writes :—

" *Anent* our certain remarks on the Congress movement published in a recent issue, we are glad to note that Mr. A. Chaudhuri in his Presidential Address at the Burdwan Provincial Conference laid all the stress upon the industrial development of India. He emphatically said that Indians as a subject race cannot have all at once high political aspirations because they have had no political traditions and that the salvation of India

lies in her industrial development. We are really glad to note this change coming on amongst the staunch *Congress-wallas*. We believe if our countrymen stop all political operations to-morrow and refrain from making eloquent speeches, India will have a better position, and if the attention of all our patriots be directed towards the industrial movement, her position will be still better. India can never rise in the scale of nations, we earnestly believe, until this sham political fight is not given up *in toto* and a way be opened to revive her industry. The deterioration of her industry alone has caused her to fall behind in the race of civilization and if she wants to keep pace with the big strides with which the West is marching on towards the goal of civilization, her resources should first of all be improved by a revival of her industry. This should be the goal of our ambitions and the acme of our highest political aspirations in this world."

The abolition of open competition for Government appointments.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 7th July 1904, writes :—

"The abolition of open competition for Government appointments will open the door wide for jobbery and nepotism. In the subordinate Executive and Judicial services a certain proportion of appointments are now made by 'nomination' instead of competition. And who are generally the nominees? Not the ablest and best educated candidates, but the sons of favourites, young *raises* who have no other recommendation but family interest, budding frontier 'chieftains' who have to be provided for political reasons, and so forth. All of these do not prove absolute failures, but as a rule they are very inferior to competition men. Since the introduction of competition the subordinate services have improved in every way, and bribery and corruption have practically vanished (!). Therefore the intention of the powers that be, as vaguely shadowed forth in the Resolution on education, to substitute selection for competition, has caused deep disquiet in the country. Seeing the advantages that have been gained through the adoption of the system of partial competition, the threatened revival of the old state of things is a matter of grave concern to all classes of the Indian population, and not merely to the educated community, for whom competition is the chief, if not the sole, means of admission into public service. For some years past the narrower type of bureaucrats have been clamouring against the so-called swamping of the service by a certain classes, such as Brahmans, Khatris, Kayasthas, who have a knack of passing examinations, to the exclusion of classes who could not pass educational tests but who are supposed to possess the inborn gift of rule. To benefit the latter some device has long been sought for to make free entry difficult for the former. The proposed abolition of competition is popularly believed to be nothing but the carrying out by Lord Curzon of the wishes of the behind-the-times bureaucracy. It is, in fact, hard to find any sound reason for the retrograde and harmful change.

"What increases the uneasiness of the public is the absence of definite information about the contemplated step. After giving out in a mysterious sort of way that the replacement to some extent of competition by selection was under consideration, our rulers have preserved an unbroken silence.

* * * * * * *

"The subject population are held to have no right now even to ask for in formation about proposed changes which most intimately concerns them. In the happy and loyal Punjab the authorities have, among themselves, decided to practically close the public service to certain castes. Applicants belonging to these castes are told plainly that owing to their birth they cannot be appointed and they go away contented. It is this kind of loyal and obedient spirit that the Sirkar desires so foster."

The Birth-day Honours.

11. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1904, writes :—

"Even the *Pioneer* is impressed with the 'quaint character' of the selections for the Kaiser-i-Hind Medal. Among those decorated with Kaiser-i-Hind Gold Medal 'for public service in India of the 1st class' are a Customs officer, a Secretary of a Religious Tracts Society, and a lady in England—while the venerable Rai Murlidhar of

Ambala, for having risked his life during successive plague epidemics in that town, and for having broken his leg while carrying a plague corpse which no one else would touch, has been honoured with a 'second class' medal? It is rumoured in the bazars that the next selections 'for public service in India of the 1st class' will include a wine merchant and the proprietor of a *chandu-khana*. A reasonable man cannot of course believe these silly rumours, but he can hardly be surprised if they happen to come true."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

12. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th June 1904, says that the flags recently sent to the Amir by the Sharif of Mecca are intended to incite the wild Afghans to proclaim a religious war. If so, asks the Editor, againt whom is the war to be undertaken? There is no need to commence hostilities against the Shia or the Hindu subjects of the Amir, for their number is insignificantly small. Nor could Russia be the object. It is therefore the British Government alone against whom the war will be waged in case the flags succeed in firing the blood of the Pathans. The Editor then asks why Government should have allowed the presents from the Sharif to pass through its territory, cognisant as it is of the influence of Mullas in Afghanistan?

The Sharif of Mecca's presents to the Amir.

13. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 9th July 1904:—

A rumoured Mission to Kabul.

"Persistent rumours threaten us with a 'peaceful Mission' to Kabul on the return of Lord Curzon, and the *Morning Leader* suspects that its object is the arrest of 'Russian intrigue.' Kabul is a harder nut to crack than Lhassa, and the Afghan armies are no longer the undisciplined hordes that gave the British so much trouble in days gone by, and the rumours of a 'peaceful Mission in that direction with the object of arresting 'Russian intrigue' are hardly calculated to cheer up the India tax-payer to an unusual extent, even in spite of the present monthly expenditure of Rs. 7,50,000 for the identical object in another quarter. Of course, Mr. Brodrick has assured us that he has no official information on the subject, but unfortunately there are people who do not regard the Secretary of State for India as a reliable authority on Indian matters. We do not known if the *Morning Leader's* alarming suspicion as to the object of the Mission is to be connected with a prevailing impression that the Amir's demeanour has not been for some time past of a most satisfactory nature. We do not know if it is true that the Amir has for some time past refused to receive his annual subsidy from the Government of India and allowed it to accumulate."

III.—Native States.

14. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 25th June 1904, says that it has received a communication bearing the thumb-marks of 24 *zamindars* of Poonch, and alleging that, on his return from Rawalpindi some time back, the Raja directed the Police to arrest agriculturists in every village in order to compel them to acknowledge his proprietary right in the land. A few tillers of the soil were actually placed under arrest, and the entire agricultural community are being subjected to such gross oppression that the less said about it the better. The *zamindars* in the State, adds the correspondent, have also been charged with killing cows, although the accusation is wholly unfounded. He alleges that the real cause of the oppression which is being practised on them is the fact of their claiming proprietary right in the land. The Editor would request the Government of India to look into the matter, adding that the oppressed, numbering about a lakh, might take the law into their own hands.

Poonch affairs.

Jaipur affairs.

15. A correspondent writing to the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd July 1904, alleges that the subjects of Jaipur are full of complaints against the law courts in the State, and are being looted in a most heartless manner. He adds that the Nazim of Madhopur is practising gross oppression on the people committed to his charge, but that the State authorities are wholly indifferent to the matter. The official named, he alleges, was formerly employed in the Accounts Department, but was dismissed the service on a charge of having misappropriated thousands of rupees. As, however, the amount could not be realised from him, he was appointed to his present post, half the pay thereof being deducted to recoup the State for the loss sustained by it through him.

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—15-7-04—70.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Expedition.

1. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 4th July 1904, says that a writer—"A friend of Liberty"—in the New York *Evening Post* inveighs strongly against England for sending an expedition against Tibet. He should, however, know that the rise and fall of nations is the work of the invisible hand of Providence, and that it is God's will that the light of civilization should no longer be denied to the Tibetans. And the expedition in question is merely an instrument for carrying out His will. Besides, how is it that "A friend of Liberty" does not feel ashamed of charging Great Britain with shedding blood recklessly? Has he forgotton that the United States were originally the home of the Red Indians; that the Americans killed off those poor creatures like dogs; and that the foundation of the civilization about which Uncle Sam boasts so much was laid with the blood of the innocents? The Editor then adds that Government wants the Grand Lama's followers merely to fulfil their engagements to it and abstain from making friends with Russia.

The same.

2. Writing about the Tibet Mission the *Tribune* (Lahore) of the 12th July 1904, remarks :—

"Our Anglo-Indian contemporaries have taken it for granted that the representatives of the Dalai Lama will submit to any conditions now to avert the march on Lhassa, but that as soon as the Mission has returned the old intrigues will be resumed. Nobody can say what these 'intrigues' were; but did the attitude of the delegates show that they are wily diplomats, only bent on temporising? Their simple straightforwardness ought to disarm all suspicion. But the wolf would never believe that the lamb spoke the truth when it denied having dirtied the water."

The same.

3. The same paper of the 16th July 1904, writes :—

"The march on Lhassa has been begun. It is very hard to forego *such* an opportunity of demonstrating the irresistible might of the British Government, and adding to its prestige in the East. In less than a month the streets of the Holy City will resound to

the tramp of British soldiers, and the Union Jack will float on the 'Vatican of the East.' * * * By the capture of the Dalai Lama's capital the escort of the Mission will have achieved a feat which has never been performed before, for the seat and centre of Northern Buddhism was spared, owing to its sacred character, by even the ruthless Central Asian conquerors who overran for over a century all lands from China to Austria. Colonel Younghusband issued a proclamation, in order to reassure the people of Tibet, on the eve of advancing on their capital. It would be interesting to know in what language this declaration of the Mission's quest and object is published, and what steps have been taken to ensure its reaching those to whom it is addressed. Has it been pasted on the ruins of Gyantse and copies distributed to Tibetans who happened to be in camp selling agricultural produce ? * * * It would seem as if those uncharitable people were not far wrong who declared that the passive and peaceful attitude at first preserved by the Tibetans caused deep dejection to the supporters of the Mission policy and its authors, and when at last the simple barbarians showed fight, profound relief and satisfaction was felt. * * * Unnerved by the Bear incessantly growling on one side and the Lion roaring on the other, the rulers of Tibet lost their heads altogether when they felt the paw of the latter extended towards them. In their fright they sought to keep out of sight the lionine apparition by the childish expedient of of pretending not to see it. This is the true explanation of their silence after the receipt of Lord Curzon's final letter."

The same.

4. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1904, writes :—

"A definite stage has been at last arrived at in the development of the Tibetan situation. The march to Lhassa has been begun and it has been realized that negotiations will have to be settled at the Tibetan Capital. A chance—and a prolonged one too—had been given to the Tibetans to treat at Gyantse ; but attempts at a peaceful settlement of the present difficulties having ended in a *fiasco*, the grave step of a forward move to Lhassa has been taken. The future is full of apprehensions ; but looking forward to the best results, we hope that a speedy and amicable end will be put to the existing tension without further bloodshed. For, however just cause our forces may have to advance, the spectacle of the mightiest empire on the face of the earth waging war with a handful of Lamas and their peaceful followers is not very edifying. Before advancing further from Gyantse, Colonel Younghusband adopted the wise measure of issuing a conciliatory proclamation, clearly setting forth the object with which the present Expedition was undertaken. The proclamation will at once dispel any wrong notions about the intentions of the British Government which may have found currency in Tibet and reassure them as to the peaceful motives of the original Mission, which later events changed into an Expedition."

The death of ex-President Kruger.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1904, writes as follows :—

"The Lion-hearted Kruger is no more ! The ex-President of the late Republic of Transvaal, after having sacrificed everything that man holds dear for the cause of liberty, breathed his last far away from home in a Swiss village. His life was one long and strenuous battle for his country, and he was upheld in his life-long fight by his faith, firm as rock, in the just dispensation of Providence. His reverses were many and great, the last being the greatest, yet his faith was never in the least shaken. He was carved out on the model of the heroes of antiquity, and in him the word loses one of its truly great men. The tragic close befitted the rough grandeur of his life.

The Russo-Japanese War.

6. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 5th July 1904, says that the trend of events in the Far East is being watched with the keenest interest by all Asiatic nations. The success of Russia in the war, adds the Editor, will be nothing short of a misfortune to the whole of Asia.

She will take possession, not only of the entire Celestial Empire, but also of Korea and Tibet. And with Persia under her thumb and Bokhara and Khiva as her feudatories, she will become the virtual mistress of the whole Continent of Asia, excluding India of course. As, however, such a state of affairs is likely to lead to complications between England and Russia on the frontiers of India, no well-wisher of the country would like Russia to win. The Editor then goes on to say that it is highly injurious to the best interests of India to be placed under the influence of Russia. In the first place, the Russian form of Government is despotic, while the Czar is bound by oath to defend Christianity, so that he cannot accord equal treatment to all classes of his subjects. And, Russia being poor and her soldiers being little better than dacoits, she will be certain to drain away the little wealth left in the country. On the other hand, if it is Japan who proves successful, a Russian invasion of India will become an impossibility. England and Japan will, in that case, become the two chief Powers of Asia, although it is difficult to predict whether they will continue to live like friends.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Official patronage in the matter of Government Service.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd July 1904, writing about the recent Resolution of the Government of India on the distribution of official patronage, says that it cannot criticise the document in the impudent and froward tone which characterises the Bengali Press in particular and other (Hindu) newspapers in general. It only wishes to show in what proportion the four great communities inhabiting India are employed in the Public Service, and for this purpose a reference to the following statement will be sufficient :—

	Number of posts held.	*Total pay drawn.* Rs.
Europeans	6,408	44,90,817
Eurasians	5,435	10,55,625
Hindus	14,202	28,45,538
Muhammadans ...	2,173	4,26,175

The foregoing table, which does not include posts carying pay under Rs. 75 per mensem, will show that the unfortunate Musalmans are wanted nowhere. An examination of the state of affairs, adds the Editor, prevalent in the Military Department will show that the number of Sikhs employed in the Army is out of all proportion to their population. How long will this last, and may Mussalmans humbly enquire of Government by what standard their rights are measured? As it is, there can be nothing surprising in their pondering over the question "How will it fare with us a few years hence?"

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

8. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st July 1904, says that efforts to create a United India are not likely to prove successful. Indeed, it is idle to expect that, with their racial and religious differences, Hindus and Muhammadans, the two great communities inhabiting India, can ever unite. The Editor adds that the soil of India seems to be unfavourable to the growth of union, and that a perusal of history shows that the country

has always been divided against itself. For instance, when Alexander invaded Hindustan no less than 800 dynasties ruled in different parts of it, while a similar state of things prevailed at the time of the Muhammadan conquest. It is true that under the most enlightened Moghal Emperor, Akbar the Great, things began to look up a little, but even he did not succeed in entirely uniting Hindus and Muhammadans. In short, the feelings, wants and tastes of the two people being different there is no likelihood of their ever joining hands.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The Legal Profession and the Frontier Province.

9. In an article entitled "The Legal Profession and the Frontier Province" the *Tribune* (Lahore, of the 12th July 1904, writes as follows :—

"Among the many ingenious and original public acts of Lord Curzon perhaps the most interesting from the legal practitioner's point of view has been the formation of the new North-West Frontier Province. For whatever political considerations it may have been deemed expedient to split up the old province, it can hardly be denied that certain unpalatable and unconstitutional innovations have been brought about incidentally. At present we are only concerned with the one which has effected the status of the Legal profession in the new Province.

"The profession all the country over was never regarded with any favour by the Government, and it is nothing strange that its head should have selected this opportunity for venting in a practical manner this aversion for the class—by enacting rules at once most novel and most arbitrary. From the official standpoint a legal practitioner is an undesirable individual, not for the lack on his part of any qualities that go to make a good and serviceable citizen, but rather on account of his possessing at least one indispensable qualification, *viz.*, legitimate independence and a desire to check official irregularities.

"In view of the present policy of the Government it is probably an unpardonable sin to possess and display independence, or even to question the correctness or propriety of the acts of the Government and its officials, and whenever and wherever such spirit of independence is found, it is the duty and the privilege of the Government to adopt measures that would sooner or later secure its putting down. * * *

"The writer among many others knows of a case where a Barrister, being a native of the Punjab proper, was denied admission as an Advocate solely on account of his not having been born in the Frontier Province. * * *

"The number of qualified lawyers who are Natives of the Province being naturally small, and to make this *nativity* a secret condition precedent—in itself a beautiful illustration of the Free Trade principle—could mean one of two things—either the Government actuated by feelings of love towards the people of the new Province has secured them a monopoly by shutting out all foreign competition or, as it is more likely, this course has been adopted solely with the object of cutting down at a stroke the number of practising lawyers and reduce it still further by subjecting them to a gradual process of hatred and humiliation. * * *

"The writer had an opportunity of ascertaining the views of the Bar in England. The initial difficulty was to make them believe that the Indian Government was capable or dealing their colleagues in India such an uncalled for blow. * * *

"Realising that the rights and the status of the whole profession were at stake, they voluntarily offered and took upon themselves the task of moving the question in Parliament by first securing the co-operation of the whole Bar and Bench in

England which would no doubt be readily given. The chief difficulty which the writer had to contend with was to furnish them with the necessary material—which he was practically denied notwithstanding his repeated applications to the India Office. * * * The time has now come, and there is a goodly array of qualified Barristers and Pleaders, both natives of Punjab and the Frontier Province itself, who have without any shadow of reason been denied the right to practise in the New Province.

"To set the matter right there are only three courses open: First, by way of an appeal to the Viceroy; secondly, by a declaratory suit; thirdly, to move the matter by way of a question in Parliament through the agency and the influence of the Hon'ble Inns of Court and other English Law Universities whose existence is thus ignored by denying their members their privileges and thus offering a common insult to such institutions and their members. The last course would be the most suitable, and we believe probably the only possible one, because the institution of a suit is practically out of question. The Executive are themselves the Judges, and where is the use of appealing to a Viceroy like Lord Curzon, who never listens to reason while intent on riding a hobby of his own? * * *

"It is possible that the indiscriminate admission, from the Government's point of view, of people who by tradition and code of honour are in duty bound to side with the oppressed and check highhandedness, may not allow the heaven-born preservers of peace and order to carry on their favourite game of playing the autocrat without being accountable to anybody; but we are sure no Englishman whose sense of justice has not been warped by the autocratic and despotic atmosphere of India would like such a useful corrective of *zoolum* to disappear from the stage altogether."

Punjab Government (Branch) Press, Simla—22-7-04—70.

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 8th July 1904, says that during the last two months it has repeatedly condemned the conduct of certain Vernacular Newspapers in supporting the Hedjaz Railway and asking for subscriptions towards the scheme. It has also pointed out that by giving money for schemes hatched in a foreign country, when those at home stand in greater need of help, Indian Muhammadans will be violating the teachings of their faith. It is a matter for congratulation, adds the Editor, that his views are beginning to attract attention.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghan affairs.

2. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1004, writes :—

"Of late telegrams and paragraphs regarding the intentions and doings of Amir Habibullah have been appearing in rapid succession in the Anglo-Indian and English Press. Though the news and comments relate to matters of no apparent moment and are of an innocuous nature, they cause no little anxiety to those who wish for permanent and unbroken friendship between the Afghans and the British. Experience has shown that increasing newspaper attention of this sort has generally preceded trouble of some kind or other. The relations between the Amir and the Government of India are not certainly of an effusively cordial nature, but there is at the same time nothing to indicate studied coldness or indifference on the part of the Amir. From the first, however, it has been observed that His Highness wished to pursue his own way regardless of the wishes or predilections of the 'protecting ally.' Besides, his disinclination to accept the British subsidy—no less a sum than 18 lakhs a year—his persistence in spending enormous sums on the manufacture of rifles and other modern weapons, and above all his reported desire to be regarded by the tribes on the N.-W. Frontier as their suzerain, have contributed to his policy and intentions not being viewed in the same light of confident friendship as were his father's. He has now a goodly number of English-knowing Indian Mussalmans in his service. We hope some one of them will bring to His Highness' notice the uneasy rumours and speculations in the Anglo-Indian and Indian Press. This would at least put His Highness on his guard."

III.—Native States.

Europeans employed in Native States.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th July 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the employment of Englishmen in the public service of Native States can never result in good, for the reason that, being members of the ruling race, they cannot work in subordination to Indian Princes. There can of course be no doubt that they give entire satisfaction in performing the work entrusted to them; still the fact that they create many complications in connection with State affairs more than nullifies the good work done. The correspondent adds that the authorities of the Foreign Office, with which Native Chiefs have to deal, send their relations to make happy hunting-grounds of Feudatory States, and that it is thus that, contrary to the policy of the Government of India, Englishmen come to be appointed to posts of trust and responsibility in these States.

Government and Native States.

4. The same paper, of the 15th July 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that treaty obligations prohibit Government from interfering in the affairs of Native States. In the proclamation of 1857 also it was expressly laid down that the *status quo* of these States would be scrupulously preserved. The Government of India does not, however, pay due regard to these solemn assurances, as is apparent from its having interfered in the management of several States during the last 20 years. It is true that none of these States have been absorbed into British Territory, still Government interference in their affairs has come to assume formidable proportions. For instance, some have had their military strength reduced, while others have had their treasuries taken over and are paid only interest. The rulers of others, again, have been reduced to mere figure-heads, and all real authority has been placed in the hands of Ministers or Councils, the supreme power being vested in Political Agents. There can be no doubt that Government is sometimes compelled to adopt such measures, but the writer would request it not to work the ruin of a State or Native Chief on the strength of an uncorroborated report by the Resident. He then goes on to say that some rules are said to have been framed by the Secretary of State for India in order to guard against the evil. He is, however, of opinion that they are not likely to lead to any good so long as Political Agents and Residents exist. In conclusion he says that the Resident in Hyderabad is all-powerful and carries everything before him.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

A Prosecution under Section 110, Criminal Procedure Code, in the United Provinces.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 23rd July 1904, writes :—

"The latest example of the liberty enjoyed by the British Indian subject has been furnished by the Executive and Judicial authorities of Mirzapur under the auspices of the United Provinces Government. One Mitthoo Khan was arrested by warrant under Section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code, which provides for security for good behaviour. Mitthoo Khan was sent to *hajut* because nothing had been proved against him. Mitthoo Khan applied for bail, and the Magistrate told him that as it was alleged that

he was a dangerous man he should not be set at liberty lest he used his liberty for intimidating witnesses. That is to say, the Magistrate had got no proof to show that he was a dangerous man, but because it was *alleged* that he was, he felt justified in sending him to *hajut* and refusing him bail and thus making it impossible for him to defend himself! Mitthoo Khan next moved the Sessions Judge for bail, and the Sessions Judge rejected the application without giving any ground! A contemporary truly says that if one Dreyfus case convulsed the whole of Europe such cases are of almost daily occurrence in this country."

The Case against the *Ahluwalia Gazette.*

6. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 11th July 1904, say that the sedition case instituted against the *Ahluwalia Gazette* swells still further the list of unnecessary prosecutions launched by the Punjab Government. The incriminating article, adds the Editor, appeared in the Gazette's issue dated the 1st May last, and is from the pen of a correspondent calling himself "Master Atma Ram," who seems to have written it in order to get the said paper into trouble. After publishing the substance of the article, he remarks that no sane and honest-minded person could have given expression to the views contained in it. And having regard to the facts that the Editor of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* has several times apologised for his negligence in giving publicity to these views, that the foolish writing in question has exercised no influence whatever on the Amritsar public, and that it has been set down as no better than the effusion of a demented brain, Government's conduct in instituting the case under reference appears strange.

The same.

7. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1904, writing on the same subject, says that it is mean papers like the *Ahluwalia Gazette* which help to bring their contemporaries into discredit. The prosecuted Editor, it may be added, is a man of straw, having once been an ordinary postal peon. His paper used to publish attacks on respectable persons, but it was certain persons other than the Editor who wrote the articles, the writings being generally of a defamatory character.

(*e*)—*Agriculture and questions affecting the land.*

Agricultural indebtedness.

8. In the course of an article on "Agricultural Indebtedness" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 23rd July 1904, writes as follows :—

"But all said and done, the fact has to be faced that it is the heaviness and uncertainty of land revenue assessments and the rigid methods adopted in their collection that are the foundation cause of agricultural impoverishment and indebtedness in India. One after another among the band of high retired Anglo-Indian administrators is nearing round the Congress banner, and the latest among them is not the least distinguished. Mr. J. E. O'Conor—to him it is we refer—is about the highest living authority on questions of Indian economics, and he states as the result of mature experience and careful study his reasoned conviction that nothing would go so far in the relief of the agriculturist as a reduction of 25 to 30 per cent. in the land revenue demand, care being taken at the same time that the reduction is secured to the cultivator. This is the real truth of the matter, and the sooner the rulers of the land, who are responsible for the well-being and prosperity of the agricultural population as the biggest landlords in creation, recognise the fact, the better for the country and its people, and

for British rule itself. There is nothing more blighting in its consequences than the periodical revision of assessments. These revisions of assessments are never intended for curtailment of the demand. The Government decide on getting so much more out of land revenue in a particular district, and straight goes the Settlement Officer to invent reasonings and calculations by which he may justify the increase of assessment before the world. Mr. Thorburn himself says in his volume on the Punjab that no revised assessment 'is undertaken unless the preliminary forecast shows that a large enhancement of revenue will accrue to the Government from the operation.' The bureaucracy wilfully shuts its eyes to the truth, it never admits that its mistaken systems and nostrums can possibly have any but a beneficial effect on the people. Even the inquiries instituted by Government itself—'perfunctory enquiries' Mr. Thorburn calls them—cannot convince its mind when they go against its grain, for 'bureaucratic optimism was proof against all inferences which clashed with predilections.' The 'scientific ideal in a Government—unsympathetic centralisation' will not do. It has had its day. 'No system could be sound which pauperised a whole people'; and the system of the present land revenue administration with its attendant gross evils of excessiveness and uncertainty, must give place to a more humane one unless the people of India are destined to perish."

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Beet Sugar *versus* country-made Sugar.

9. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 12th July 1904, says that the popularisation of Beet sugar among Hindus has inflicted a loss of crores on the country and thrown lakhs of Natives out of employ. In the Editor's opinion the Arya Samajists are chiefly to blame for this. His argument is that the educated are the natural leaders of the masses; and that the Aryas being the educated section of the Hindu community, they should have served as a guide to their ignorant brethren. Instead, however, of doing anything of the sort, they have been spending all their energies in religious controversies and in hatching schemes to raise various memorials. The Editor then goes on to say that Beet sugar is one of the means whereby money is being drained away from India; that its use is injurious to health; and that it is inferior to its country-made rival in every respect. He, therefore, exhorts his fellow-countrymen to take pledges to leave off using foreign-made sugar, and reports that certain persons in Lahore are making arrangements for supplying sweets, &c., prepared with country-made sugar.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

General Kuropatkin's scheme for a Russian invasion of India.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th July 1904, writing about General Kuropatkin's scheme for the invasion of India, published by the *Daily Express*, says that General Kuropatkin is greatly mistaken in counting on a Native rising in support of Russia. Having regard to the present condition of the country, the feelings of the people towards Government and the power of the British, the General's assumption is preposterous. Besides, when he can achieve nothing against Japan it is but an empty boast on his part to threaten to invade India. At all events, the natives of this country thoroughly appreciate the blessings of British rule, and are not to be taken in by tall talk on the part of Russia.

The Tibet Mission.

2. The same paper, of the 19th July 1904, says that the *Institute Gazette* of Aligarh approves of Government's Tibetan policy and is of opinion that the expedition must march on Lhassa. After remarking that strictly speaking the Government of India alone is responsible for the despatch of the expedition and that several members of the Cabinet were opposed to the move, the Editor observes that Government's policy in Tibet is not calculated to prove an unmixed blessing. He considers it likely to lead to several complications, and is of opinion that the expedition should withdraw after ensuring the fulfilment of the Lama's treaty obligations with Government. He adds that the small beginning now made could be made to lead to greater results later on, but that were not Government to act with prudence at the present juncture it might possibly have to face difficulties like those which some time back beset England in the Soudan and South Africa.

The same.

3. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 30th July 1904, writes :—

"Mr. Brodrick still declares in the House of Commons that there is 'nothing to prevent negotiations anywhere on the march to Lhassa!' He is probably not aware of the firm determination of the authorities in India to lift the purdah of Lhassa, and now that the goal has almost been reached nothing would turn back the Mission. All impartial observers will have noted how Colonel Younghusband would not listen at all to the requests of the peace delegates from Lhassa, while he would impose the hardest terms on them and insist on their immediate acceptance. This is not an attitude indicating eagerness for peace. It appears that even if the delegates went on their knees and expressed their readiness to submit to any conditions, the march on the Holy City will not be stopped."

(*b*)—*Home.*

The "Exploitation" of India.

4. In an article entitled "Is Exploitation Right?" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 28th July 1904, writes :—

"Indians regard the country as theirs and all its latent wealth as their property by the most inviolable of all rights, *viz.*, as their birth-right. Foreign domination in the present autocratic exclusive form they regard as only a temporary affair to last the time of their political tutelage. Self-Government under British rule is their *summum bonum*. They anxiously and hopefully look forward to the day that will witness their political emancipation under the ægis of freedom-loving England's beneficent sway, and then of course they will set on a career of the industrial development of their country. They will then work the natural resources of their native land to the advantage of the teeming millions of the children of the country. Until such a time will come, their latent wealth must be held as it were in trust for them by their alien rulers who are in the position of their guardians and have all the guardian's responsibility to his wards, who are the people of India. By the mere reason of their political supremacy over the country, they have no moral right to assume the role of the industrial lords of the country and subject the people themselves to the lot of their industrial serfs, mere hewers of wood and drawers of water, in the same way that they have already reduced them to the position of political cyphers. It is contrary to every humane and civilized notion of Government to exploit all the natural wealth of the country and carry away that wealth, as if by barefaced plunder of the helpless subject race, leaving behind nothing but sands and stones to the people themselves. America is not governing the Philippines and Cuba as England is doing India, and it is to the eternal shame of our ruling country that with all her sweet-tongued professions to the contrary, she has yet pursued a policy of only material destruction of India all these 150 years of her political connection with India. But these views are not shared by latter-day Anglo-Indian bureaucrats. * * * *

"They hold that India is Britain's by right of conquest, and that it is the mission of the white people to exploit the weaker races and their national wealth. * * * In one word, the earth and the fatness thereof according to this theory belongs to the white man, and by preference to John Bull.

"These almost brutal views do not, however, find much support outside India. * * * "India is neither for the Indians nor for the free Englishmen, but for the selfish Anglo-Indian exploiter—this is the motto of our friends out here. * * * It is to the misfortune of India that the baser creed has all along been in the ascendant in the councils of the Empire."

5. The *Wafadar Delhi Punch* (Lahore), of the 15th July 1904, writing about the prosecution of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* for publishing a seditious article, says that it has warned its contemporaries more than once not to indulge in irresponsible criticism and abuse the liberty granted to them, adding that such conduct is fraught with danger, not only to themselves, but to the country and the people at large. It is, however, to be regretted that its advice has fallen on deaf ears and that not a few papers continue in their reprehensible course. He then goes on to say that the liberty granted to the Press should not be taken advantage of to misrepresent the motives of Government and create estrangement between the rulers and the ruled. It should be utilised for voicing the grievances and upholding the rights of the people and for respectfully pointing out the shortcomings of Government officers.

The case against the *Ahluwalia Gazette*.

6. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 19th July 1904, publishes a communication the writer of which condemns the "invidious distinction" made between British and Native Soldiers in the matter of rates of pay, and says this is likely to breed discontent in the Native Army.

The pay of British and Native soldiers.

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 25th July 1904, says that in the course of his recent speech at the Guildhall, Lord Curzon acknowledged the Indian people's loyalty to the Crown. His conduct in passing the amended Official Secrets Act in the teeth of universal opposition would, however, show that he regards all classes of Natives as disloyal and disaffected. Nevertheless, it is a matter for satisfaction that in his heart the *ex*-Viceroy is convinced of their loyalty,—but they would like to have some tangible proof of this.

Indian loyalty.

8. The *Vakil* (Amitsar), of the 16th July 1904, publishes the substance of a letter which Munshi Ahmad Beg, Manager of the Jagirdar's estate, Ahmadnagar, has recently published in the *Bombay Gazette* appealing to the Muhammadans of Bombay to throw in their lot with the National Congress. The Editor differs from the Munshi and says that it would be a disgrace for his co-religionists to abandon their present policy in order to secure a few paltry advantages. He also challenges the correctness of Ahmad Beg's statement that Musalmans were made to forsake the Congress in 1885 by being given to understand that if they did so they would receive special favours (at the hands of Government). Sir Syed Ahmad Khan's sole reason, he adds, for asking the Prophet's followers to stand aloof from the movement in question was their numerical inferiority, which was a bar to their safeguarding their rights at meetings of the Congress. The Editor further remarks that it is true that the times are always changing, but that things have not yet gone so far as to warrant his co-religionists abandoning their present attitude towards the Congress. In conclusion, he remarks that Mirza Ahmad Beg is wrong in addressing himself exclusively to the Bombay Musalmans, adding that the entire Muhammadan population of the country are interested in the matter.

Muhammadans and the National Congress.

9. The same paper, of the 23rd June 1904, says that the *Behar News* has published an interesting article discussing the question whether political agitation in India can lead to any good. The Bengali Press seems inclined to answer the question in the negative, Lord Curzon's studied indifference to their writings and his passing certain Acts in spite of their vehement protests having damped the spirits of Congress newspapers. Indeed, Mr. Chaudhri, the President of the Bengal Provincial Conference recently held at Bardwan, admitted the futility of political agitation in the clearest language, adding that, being a conquered race, the natives of India had no political rights. This has greatly perturbed Mr. Digby, and, at a recent meeting of the London Indian Society, he submitted a lengthy document suggesting the line of action the National Congress should follow in future; he is of opinion that the Congress should not concern itself with petty reforms, but should try to have Self-Government established in India under the protection of the British Government. The Editor has a shrewd suspicion that Mr. Digby has made the suggestion in order to divert the attention of the people from encouraging Native industries which are injurious to the interests of British manufacturers.

Political agitation in India.

III.—Native States.

10. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 16th July 1904, exhorts its contemporaries of the *Vakil*, the *Watan*, the *Zamiadar*, the *Paisa Akhbar*, &c., to expose the oppressive practices of the Raja of Poonch. After remarking that things are going from bad to worse, for which Diwan Mohkam Chand alone is responsible, the Editor advises the Maharaja of Kashmir to take the management of the State into his own hands. He adds that the relations of a certain woman, who was unlawfully arrested and sent to the lock-up, are about to institute a regular complaint against the Raja, and that if His Highness does not make his peace with the complainants it will be the worse for him.

Complaint against the Raja of Poonch.

11. A correspondent writing to the same paper alleges that a few days back a certain Editor from Lahore went to Poonch. He was received kindly by the Raja and was given some presents by the latter, as also a promise of further help if he continued defending His Highness. It is to be regretted, adds the writer, that the ruler of Poonch should bring disgrace upon himself by patronising penny-a-liners like the above Editor.

The same.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

12. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 30th July 1904, writes:—

Undue prolongation of Criminal Trials.

"The undue prolongation of trials in the so-called courts of justice in India is a scandal which has grown out of all proportion and been proving a prolific source of harassment and ruin to not a few of His Majesty's subjects. The litigants, or, more properly, the less educated portion of that class, have begun to plead consciousness to the prevailing condition of affairs in a manner which is peculiarly their own. Not long ago, when a poor fellow found the date of his trial in a certain District Judge's Court postponed for the sixth time,

he respectfully submitted to the Court whether he was to look forward to the advent of Russia for the disposal of his case ! Another victim, already thoroughly exasperated, could hold himself no longer at the seventh postponement, and, finding all his vehement solicitations and tearful entreaties of no avail, leaned forward in the direction of the Judge, and, wisely stopping his own ears with pieces of rag, began to mutilate the latest comic song in tones which were intended to be impressively musical, when, to prevent a catastrophe, the Police interfered and with the greatest difficulty removed the madman to the distant jail, where he finished his song amidst roars of applause. Recently at Muzaffarpore another victim took a shorter cut to demonstrate his exasperation. He threw an old shoe at the trying Magistrate, hitting him on the left arm. On search, a piece of brick was also found on his person, the services of which, he explained, would have been brought into requisition failing the success of the former missile. He was made over for trial to a Deputy Magistrate, to whom he confided that the shoe he had sent forward to add to the dignity of the Judge had been intended to be a reminder to the court of of the undue prolongation of his trial, which had already taken three months. He appeared very happy when the Deputy Magistrate sentenced him to undergo a rigorous imprisonment for one year. When being led to jail he was overheard to remark that he would like to be entertained at Government expense for any length of time by shoe-beating any number of Magistrates rather than put up with the attending troubles and expenses and anxieties and harrassment and suspense of eternal postponements. We hope the lesson taught by this rascal will be an eye-opener to those whom it concerns. We may also take this opportunity to note that, impressed by the campaign of harrassment and ruin being so vigorously conducted by our courts of justice, the Marwaris of Cawnpore have just decided that no member of their community will henceforth be allowed to have his dispute settled by any other agency but their own Punchayat. This is an example which the so-called more advanced communities will do well to profit by."

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese War.

1. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 23rd July 1904, writing about the Russo-Japanese War, says that if Japan emerges successfully from the struggle she will not only change the destinies of Asia, but lower the prestige of Europe in the East. Even if she does not succeed in moulding China after her own model, she will be certain to make the Navy of the Celestial Empire supreme in Eastern Waters. And in that case the Philippine islands, the East Indies, New Zealand and Australia will be at the mercy of China, which will lead to the discontinuance of the ill-treatment now accorded to Asiatics in Australia. It is also likely that Japan may go to the rescue of those Chinese who are being grossly oppressed in the Transvaal. After remarking that Japan is of opinion that Asia should be for the Asiatics, the Editor says that were the various nations of Asia to make this their watch-word they would assuredly revive their former greatness, especially as they are now showing signs of awakening and have come to realise that they can shape their destinies as they will. He then condemns the despatch of an expedition against Tibet, and expresses the hope that England will not have to suffer for this.

Japan and Persia.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st August 1904, says that at one time Japan tried to establish friendly relations with Persia also, but the offer was rejected with contempt. Quite recently the Editor had a talk with Loinab Khushdil Khan, a well known officer of the Amir Sher Ali Khan, who has always shared Sardar Ayub Khan's exile, and left Lahore for Afghanistan only this week. In the course of the conversation he was told by the Loinab that some 18 or 20 years ago, when Sardar Ayub Khan was in Persia, a Japanese Envoy came to that country and waited upon the Shah with a proposal regarding the establishment of friendly relations between Persia and

Japan. He represented to His Majesty that as the powers of Europe were swallowing up or weakening Asiatic kingdoms, the latter should unite and endeavour to improve their condition. The Envoy added that Persia should wake up and follow the example of Japan in adopting European methods of government. The message, however, bore no fruit and the Envoy was only laughed at for his pains. To-day, says the Editor, the Persians must have come to realise what Japan is and whether she was fitted to give them advice. He then goes on to say that it would be a misfortune were independent kingdoms like Persia, Afghanistan, China, Siam and Tibet to learn no lesson from Japan.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Prosecution of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* for Sedition.

3. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th July 1904, says that the prosecution of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* for sedition should teach a lesson to those newspapers which in their writings transgress the law. The Press in India, adds the Editor, is free, but not to such an extent that it should create feelings of disaffection towards the very Government to which it owes its liberty.

The Political condition of the People of India.

4. In the course of an article entitled "The Amelioration of our condition Social, Political and Economical," the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th August 1904, writes :—

"The fact is that at present our voice or wishes do not count for much in the framing of the policy which governs us. It all depends on the personal character and idiosyncrasies of the gentleman who is sent to rule us. These actions and reactions will always continue until our voice and wishes become a considerable factor. This will not be the case until the masses support by their voice and wishes what the natural leaders of the country or rather its brain—the educated classes—say. We do not mean to decry the conduct of the educated classes in voicing the needs of the people in general, but what we mean to say is that their prayers and protests will always want the stamina which gives a right to such prayers and protests to receive a favourable consideration. So the first duty of our educated people is to adopt earnestly a propaganda for the education of the masses in an intelligent realization of their needs and sho rtcomings, and for the inception of a sincere desire in their minds to see them remedied. This the leaders have unhappily neglected hitherto. If the same amount of interest and trouble which is taken in the annual Congresses, Conferences and Exhibi tions were taken in founding Village, Perganah, District, Divisional and Provincial Conferences, Associations and Exhibitions, a very considerable part of our task, *i.e.*, the constituting of India into a nation, will not only be achieved, but the voice of our educated brethren who now speak of our behalf will also acquire a force and character deserving of consideration. We wish our *practical Province* will take a lead in this matter. If one or several parent associations be formed at Lahore for the consideration and ventilation of the political, social and economic needs and requirements of the country, and branches thereof be established in every Division, District and Tahsil of the Province, nay in every town and village, we would provide a very useful object lesson to our brethren in other Provinces and give a very needful and useful education to our brethren of the Punjab. If the single-mindedness and self-sacrifice which actuates the leaders of the Arya Samaj in our Province could create a spark in the minds of those who are conscious of the political, social and economic wants of our country, and make them sincerely wish to see them removed, we believe success would crown our efforts in no time."

III.—Native States.

Government and Native States.

5. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th July 1904, remarks that Native States lag behind in the race for progress that is going on in India under the present peaceful *régime*. The reason for this is that the pampered Indian Princes have no sympathy with their fellow-countrymen, which in its turn is due to their not being given a good education and having selfish and foolish men for their advisers. The blame for the latter state of things, adds the Editor, rests with Government, which is responsible for the welfare of Feudatory States in all circumstances, and which should consequently see that they are not misgoverned by fools and debauchees. He then goes on to say that the pay of Political Agents constitutes a very heavy burden on the treasuries of the said States, while the existence of these officers serves no useful purpose whatever: many things, he alleges, take place in the States and affecting the people vitally, do not so much as reach the ears of Government's representatives. The Editor further remarks that Government being responsible for the preservation of peace throughout India, as also for the security of the lives and property of the people, it should not be indifferent to the welfare of the people of Native States. He is, therefore, of opinion that all the Ruling Chiefs should be deposed and the tracts administered by them absorbed into British territory, so as to rescue the State subjects from the clutches of their indifferent masters and oppressive officials. It may be objected that some of these Princes are able men and well acquainted with the methods of government. Even they, however, are not free from defect: the higher their education the greater is the religious bigotry displayed by them, with the result that those of their subjects—Hindus or Muhammadans—who differ from them in faith are full of complaints against them.

Poonch affairs.

6. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), dated the 23rd July 1904, says that if Diwan Mohkam Chand has really been dismissed from the service of the Poonch State his removal is certain to be followed by a redress of the grievances of the State subjects, all of whose troubles are ascribable to him. The Editor adds that every new Lambardar in Poonch has to pay a *nazrana* of between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 2,000, as also a sum of Rs. 5 on account of the "price" of the *patta* granted to him, while he must find Rs. 3 on his confirmation in the office. He then finds fault with the administration of the State, and approves of the action of Government in appointing Shekh Rahim Bakhsh, a Punjab Extra Assistant Commissioner, to the post of Wazir. He also alleges that large sums of money have been misappropriated in connection with the construction of the Haunji Pir-Uri road.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Performance of a strange Marriage by the Arya Samaj.

7. A correspondent writing to the *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 26th July 1904, reports that on the evening of the 19th idem a strange marriage was performed at the house of a local Barrister named Roshan Lal. Both the bride and the bridegroom are already married persons, having their former husband and wife, respectively, alive. The Hindu community does not

forbid a man to marry more than once although his previously wedded wife should be alive. The marriage in question is, however, the first instance of a Hindu woman marrying a second time during the lifetime of her first husband, and that also with the undisguised help of the leaders of the Arya Samaj. This would show that the Samaj also has begun to disregard the teachings of the *Shastras* and act in an arbitrary manner. The public, adds the writer, were under the impression that the Arya Society would prove beneficial to the country, but they have been disillusioned. He further remarks that the Arya Samaj lacks the essentials of a religious movement; that its practices do not accord with its professions; and that its members quarrel among themselves over trivial matters. He also challenges the Aryas to prove that marriages of the kind referred to are sanctioned in any of the *Shastras* or in any writing by Swami Daya Nand.

VII.—General Administration.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

Grievances of third class Passengers.

8. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 25th July 1904, says that the grievances of the Native travelling public, especially those of third class passengers have become a matter of common knowledge. The Vernacular Press has been writing on the subject for the last 20 years, but, so far no heed has been paid to its writings. In spite of Government's solicitude to remove the inconvenience experienced by passengers, some of the responsible officers of the Railway persist in turning a deaf ear to all complaints. The Editor is, therefore, of opinion that, instead of publishing desultory articles on the subject the Indian Press should unite and submit a memorial to Government praying for redress. He then complains of defective arrangements for the supply of food at Railway Stations and suggests that an Inspector, who should be a Native gentleman on at least Rs. 1,000 a month, should be posted to every line to see that wholesome and cheap food is available for passengers at all important stations.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Assaults by Europeans on Natives.

9. In discussing a recent alleged case of assault at Mussoorie the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 4th August 1904, writes:—

"The false notion the white rulers out here have got of their prestige, and the measures they generally adopt to maintain it, are the very things that are sapping the true foundations of that prestige. As it is, every white bully in the country can enjoy himself with practical impunity, even to the extent of playing with human life; and woe unto the British Indian subject who is reckless enough to return blow for blow, for the prestige of the white British Raj will seriously suffer if there is not an official and non-official white combination to ruin him. Even if he does not take the law into his own hands to vindicate his honour, but approaches the Sircar for justice, he has invariably either to yield to official pressure or is made a fool of by the executive and judicial authorities."

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 13th August 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Russo-Japanese War.

1. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 1st August 1904, says that for centuries past the nations of Europe have been claiming superiority over the Asiatic races. The Russo-Japanese War has, however, demolished this claim and proved to the world that the progress of a country or nation depends largely on its Government. After remarking that the successes gained by Japan on land and sea will have the effect of stopping European aggression in Asia, the Editor observes that the war has afforded England a unique opportunity to strengthen her Empire in India in every way. The fear of a Russian invasion of this country is now a thing of the past, and Government is free to utilise for the advancement of Natives the crores of rupees it used to spend on fortifying the North-West Frontier against Russia. Government should train the warlike races in the country to render more effectual help in time of war, the best way to gain this object being to train members of these races to command. The Editor then refers to what the Japanese Government has done for its subjects, and expresses his inability to understand why the British Government should be unable to banish famine and poverty from India. He would exhort the authorities to prove to the world that if an Asiatic Government can better the position of its subjects by working on European lines, the European administration in Asia can also achieve equally good results.

The same.

2. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th August 1904, finds fault with the vacillating policy of the British Ministry in connection with the seizure the *Malacca* and the sinking of the *Knight Commander*, and says that it will be an exhibition of weakness and cowardice to overlook such outrages on the part of Russia.

The same.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd August 1904, says that the seizure of the *Malacca* and the sinking of the *Knight Commander* by Russian ships of war has greatly strained the relations between England and

Russia. An open rupture between the two powers is, however, unlikely if the latter gives a satisfactory explanation of her conduct. The Editor adds that British statesmen are as averse to plunging their country into a war at the present moment as is the Czar's Government to embroiling itself in a second struggle. He therefore feels confident that there is no serious ground for apprehending a war between England and Russia in the near future.

(b)—Home.

British Rule in India.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th August 1904, says that it was with the guidance of politics alone that the British Government conquered India (*sic*), and that a consideration of the manner in which the conquest was effected shows that Government has always had confidence in its own wisdom. As for this country, it has, like an exceedingly sincere but foolish friend, invariably acquiesced in everything done or proposed by Government, although occasionally its acquiescence affords evidence of veiled disaffection, traces of which are to be found in the tone of Bengali newspapers, the National Congress, &c. This feeling is created when, for instance, Native troops are sent to fight against a country with which India has no connection whatever; for on such occasions, while priding itself on the bravery and loyalty shown by the soldiers in question, Government charges the cost of the war to the revenues of India. Government regards Natives as worse than labourers in other lands, and such conduct on its part has reduced the people to the position of cattle, which cannot be an object of edification to the rest of the world. His Majesty's Indian subjects were nurtured under the protecting wing of the law, and it was English education which taught them to demand their rights. When, however, they preferred the demand, they were told that it raised a suspicion of treachery, whereas the fact is there was no treachery, and the people were only ignorant of the right way of asking a thing of Government. The Editor then goes on to say that all the Feudatory States, with the exception of three or four of which the rulers are enlightened men, are in a very deplorable condition. The blame for the evil, however, lies, not with Government, but with the Chiefs and the Darbars. The majority of Indian Princes seem to be under the impression that all they need do in order to prove themselves to be enlightened rulers is to flatter Government, submit passively to Political Agents and Residents, present *nazars* to the paramount power and make offers to Government of men and money—in season and out of season. The independence originally conceded to these States by Government has come to be only nominal. In conclusion, the Editor advocates better training and education for young Chiefs.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Policy of the present Amir.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 6th August 1904, says that the policy followed by the late Amir Abdur Rahman seems to have died with him. In several points the present ruler of Kabul holds views opposed to those of his father, although it is difficult to say whether in the long run this will prove beneficial or injurious to Afghanistan. At all events, it is to be hoped that His Highness will not carry his fondness for European civilisation and enlightenment so far as to lead to the deplorable consequences which are making

themselves felt in Morocco. The Editor then goes on to say that before thinking of introducing electric light into Kabul, Habibulla Khan should have tried to spread the light of knowledge in that city. His Highness, he adds, should profit by the example of Japan and send Afghan youths to study, if not in America, Germany and England, at least in the Land of the Rising Sun. As it is, by introducing into his kingdom appliances which his own subjects cannot work, the Amir is encouraging the employment of strangers in his territory.

III.—Native States.

Mismanagement in Native States.

6. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd August 1904, alleges that a reign of lawlessness, of which Government takes no notice, is prevalent in Native States nowadays. Several members of the various State Councils are ignorant or headstrong men, from whom the people cannot obtain justice ; the laws in force in the said States are antiquated and have nothing in common with those obtaining in British territory. Any State subject exposing the true facts in the columns of a newspaper is, on his indentity becoming known, punished by confiscation of his property and with imprisonment or expulsion from the State. On the other hand, Indian Princes are so afraid of those beggarly Editors who live on the charity of Native States, that they pay the latter hundreds of rupees in order to prevent publicity being given to their mismanagement. The Editor further remarks that the Princes squander money in pleasure, with the result that almost every Feudatory State is heavily involved in debt. He then goes on to say that in order to ensure the prosperity of these States and establish peace among their subjects, Government should place them under Commissioners and Chief Commissioners, putting an end to the existing Political Agencies ; otherwise the British form of government should be intrduced into Native States. The only alternative the Editor can suggest is that Native States should be absorbed into British territory, fixed maintenance allowances being sanctioned for their present rulers.

The Aryas and non-Vedic religions.

7. One Ghulam Rasul, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd August 1904, says that the present attitude of the Arya Samaj towards the followers of other religions must be pronounced unwise. Indeed, instead of adding to its popularity, the Samaj is certain to fall in the estimation of the public by persisting in its present policy. After remarking that adverse criticism of the religious beliefs of non-Aryas is not calculated to convince them of the truth of the Vedic faith, the writer goes on to say that by stirring up a spirit of hostility against the Sikhs or Muhammadans, Swami Dayanand's followers will be injuring only themselves. He has not the slightest doubt that the religious bigotry dispalyed by the Samaj will work it endless harm, as is amply testified to by the recent murder of the Station Master of Faridkot, deplorable incidents like which are likely to go on multiplying if the Arya Samajists persist in reviling other religions. The writer concludes by remarking that Mirza Ghulam Ahmad's attitude towards other faiths is similar to that of the Aryas, and that it is for this reason that Muhammadans look down on the Mirza's writings.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 13th August 1904, says that in all probability it was at the instance of Russia that the Tibetans defied the Government of India. It is also pretty certain that, but for the war in progress in the Far East, Russia would have openly joined forces with them at the present juncture. As it is, however, Tibet can expect help from no quarter, and must perforce agree to any terms the Mission may propose. The net result will be that Tibet will shortly be converted into a Feudatory State. And after the construction of a Railway to the Yangtse Valley, the necessity for which is certain to be felt sooner or later, Government will become all-powerful in that country, and this will constitute another obstacle in the way of Russia advancing towards India.

Russian designs on India.

2. The same paper remarks that the opening to traffic of 600 miles of the new Railway from Orenburg to Tashkend seems to have thrown Russian newspapers into ecstasies of joy. In making the announcement the said papers have vented their spleen on England for contracting an alliance with Japan, and have taken care to point out that the Railway in question is calculated to prove of great help to Russia in case of an advance upon India through Afghanistan. They should, however, have the sense to realise that Russia, who has been so severely handled by tiny Japan, will be certain to receive her death-blow in case of an encounter with great Britain. These prints should also open their eyes to the fact that there is not the least likelihood of the Russians being allowed to invade India through the country of the Afghans. Afghanistan is not only an ally of England, but can never be friendly towards Russia, who is an open enemy of the Sultan of Turkey, the Caliph of Muhammadans.

(b)—*Home.*

The Amritsar Sedition case.

3. The *Punjab Organ* (Sialkot), of the 12th August 1904, referring to the sentences passed on the Editor and the Printer of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*, remarks that Government has granted liberty to the Press, and does not

discourage legitimate criticism of its measures by newspapers. Those papers, therefore, which do not proceed with caution and publish objectionable matter have only themselves to blame if they get into trouble, Government being very reluctant to undertake prosecutions.

The same.

4. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 13th August 1904, writes :—

"The case of the Editor, *Ahluwalia Gazette*, Amritsar, has been decided. According to our contemporary, *Amritsar Gazette*, the Editor has been sentenced to undergo six months' imprisonment and to pay a fine of one hundred rupees, and the Printer is also to pay a fine of five hundred rupees. No one who has read the article which contained sedition can ever say that justice has not been done in this case. The article was altogether foolish and should not have emanated from the pen of an Indian of honest thoughts."

Muhammadans and the Congress Exhibition of Arts and Industries.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 10th August 1904, says that during the last three years an annual Art Exhibition has been held in connection with the National Congress. It is now proposed to add an industrial and agricultural branch to the exhibition. And as the next session of the Congress is to be held at Bombay, which is noted for commercial and industrial enterprise, the Editor feels confident that the exhibition will prove a success. He is also of opinion that India being an agricultural country and the majority of the people being dependent on land for their bread, all sections of the population should take a keen interest in everything pertaining to the development of the natural resources of their land. There is, however, a drawback to Muhammadans interesting themselves in the exhibition. The Congress being a political body, from which the Muhammadans have so far stood aloof, it is a question whether it will be advisable for them to take part in any branch of its work, although the same may have nothing to do with politics. It would appear at first sight that the exhibition not being of a political character, there could be no harm in Musalmans joining it. A careful perusal of the prospectus issued by the Congress on the subject will, however, reveal the fact that the enterprise is not without a political colouring. In these circumstances the Editor would advise his co-religionists to make arrangements for holding a separate exhibition of arts and industries in connection with the Aligarh College or the Educational Conference.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Afghanistan and the example set by Japan.

6. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 8th August 1904, says that war news from the Far East is eagerly read by the Amir, and wonders whether the accounts of the Japanese victories do not move His Highness to try and make Afghanistan a second Japan. The Afghans, adds the Editor, are in no way inferior to the Japanese : they are a strong and brave people, form one nationality, live under the rule of one monarch, speak a common language, profess the same religion and are endowed with high intellectual powers. Were they to train their minds and learn Western arts and sciences, they would outstrip the Mikado's subjects in ten short years. They are brave and hardy warriors and good marksmen ; but all this cannot avail them

much. Daring and bravery are useless unless coupled with able generalship and knowledge of the modern science of war. It is a matter of surprise to the Editor that a shrewd ruler like Amir Abdur Rahman should not have realised this, and that His Highness' successor also should be indifferent to the matter, especially at a time when Russia seems impatient to march on Kabul.

(*f*)—*Railways and Communications.*

A suggestion to provide separate accommodation for sweepers.

7. The *Railway and Engineering News* (Jullundur), of the 8th August 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that under the existing arrangements sweepers travel in the same carriage with Hindu and Muhammadan passengers. This, he adds, being a source of great inconvenience to the latter, a Third Class compartment should be reserved for the former in every train.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

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Nil.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land—

Nil.

(f)—Railways and Communications—

Nil.

(g)—Postal matters—

Nil.

(h)—Miscellaneous—

Nil.

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I.—Politics.

(b)—Home.

1. The following leading article appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1904, under the heading of "Lord Curzon's Recent Utterances" :—

Lord Curzon and the Administration of India.

"Lord Curzon spoke of a 'Police policy that should raise the standard of almost the only employment and authority that the majority of the people see there and free them from petty tyranny and oppression.' We know that Lord Curzon appointed a Commission to enquire into the working of the Police in India and to suggest improvements. The people of the country were not sufficiently represented in that Commission, which however submitted an elaborate report which has been in the hands of Government now for nearly two years. The report has not been published, although the London *Times* was able to give a summary of the more important of its recommendations. It is true that the President of the Commission and some of his Europeon colleagues have all had their Knighthoods and other titles; but nothing has as yet been done to give effect to the recommendations they made. It is expected that on his return to India Lord Curzon will take up the Report. But we must confess that we do not hope that he will be able to do anything striking or extraordinary. In the other matters that Lord Curzon has already dealt with he has completely disappointed his freinds and admirers. Few Indians expect anything good from him so far as their countrymen are concerned. They will indeed be thankful if Indians are ultimately able to retain what they now have. For, the result of Lord Curzon's intervention in the matter will most likely be the extension of the sphere of employment for Europeans, and substantial increase in the pay and prospects of those already in the Force. It is nothing short of extravagance for Lord Curzon to claim that anything that he has done or will do will free the great mass of the people from the oppression and tyranny of the Police.

"There is one passage in Lord Curzon's speech to which we feel bound to take exception. He said that 'there are some people who clamour for boons it is impossible to give, but the administrator looks rather to the silent and inarticulate masses, and if he can raise even by a little the level of material comfort and well-being in their lives he has earned his reward.' These words refer to the demands put forward by educated Indians

in their newspapers and by means of addresses, memorials and resolutions passed at political Congressess and Conferences. These demands have never been extravagant or impossible to give. All that they have asked for is justice, and that the pledges given by British statesmen and sovereigns in the most solemn manner should be redeemed. To characterise their just demands as impossible is to add insult to injury. Lord Curzon has done this country great harm by making it impossible for his successors to take up some of the questions of importance which he has dealt with in a most unsatisfactory manner. He has emphasised the principle—in fact, his whole Government has been based on it—that a large number of the highest posts in the public services of this country should be reserved for men of British nationality and birth. He has practically declared that a Native of India is intellectually and morally inferior to the Englishman. Lord Curzon is aware that the educated classes in India have not one good word to say for him. So he turns to the inarticulate masses to seek their good will. But what has he done for them? Absolutely nothing. Not one act that he has done, not one legislative enactment that he has managed to carry through his Council, is calculated in the slightest degree to advance the interests and welfare of the masses of the population of India. Financial prosperity gave him opportunities to lessen the heavy load of taxation under which the people groaned, but all he did was to take off a small fraction of the duty on salt. The masses of the people are as poor, if not poorer, as they were before Lord Curzon came to India. The educational facilities at their disposal—more especially those for technical and industrial training—are still as restricted in character and in scope as they were five years ago. The law Courts, the legal procedure, the tyranny and oppression exercised by petty employés in Police and other departments of public service, bother and harass them as much as they did six years ago. The land revenue assessment continues to be as hard and oppressive as before. Look at the matter of the material comfort and well-being of the masses from any side you like, it will be clear that there has been no improvement whatever during the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon.

"Lord Curzon made still another extravagant claim which requires to be strongly refuted in the interests of truth and justice. He said: 'We have endeavoured to render the land revenue more equitable in the incidence, to lift the load of usury from the shoulders of the peasant, and to check that reckless alienation of the soil which in many parts of the country was fast converting him from a free proprietor to a bond slave.' Now, all who know anything about the affairs of this country are aware that Lord Curzon dealt with the question of the land revenue assessment in the most unsatisfactory manner. The land-owner and the peasant not only have had no relief whatever, but Lord Curzon has made it impossible for his successor to re-open the question in the near future. He issued a resolution abounding with one-sided arguments, inaccurate statements, and erroneous deductions to prove that the land revenue settlement of this country was the most perfect yet devised by man and that it needed no radical changes or alterations. Nothing has yet been done to afford the peasant relief from the burden of debt. The legislation relating to alienation of land, which is claimed by misguided and short-sighted officials and their apologists as the *panacea* for the evil of land indebtedness, is still an experiment the results of which it is impossible to foresee with any degree of accuracy or certainty. This legislation is wrong in principle, and there are many who doubt if it will at all work well. The Government of Lord Curzon failed to grasp the true causes of the indebtedness of the agricultural classes, and we are not, therefore, at all sanguine about the remedies they have employed. Surely it is not permissible to speak in such glowing terms of the effect of what is still an experiment.

"Lord Curzon made yet another wrong statement which deserves exposure. He said 'we have done our best to encourage industries which little by little will relieve the congested fields of agriculture, develop the indigenous resources of India, and gradually make that country more or less prosperous in the future.' Now in India we know absolutely nothing about the encouragement referred to by Lord Curzon. During the

five years-and-a-half that he was in India, Lord Curzon often spoke and wrote eloquently about the desirability of reviving the indigenous industries of the country, but he did nothing practical in the matter. Our countrymen have lost all faith in him and his speeches; and his eloquence no longer fascinates them. They have come to know that Lord Curzon is not their friend, although he is a clever tactician and an able and well-read politician. They are fully convinced that he is no statesman, and that even as an administrator he does not rank at all high among the great and good men who have been sent by England to rule India. Lord Curzon was certainly guilty of extravagance of the most grotesque description when he said that as the result of his efforts he could point to an India that was more prosperous, more contented, and more hopeful. This statement is certainly untrue. We do not think any other Viceroy of India gave rise to greater discontent, despair and hopelessness than Lord Curzon, whose contention about the rise in prosperity is perfectly untenable. By his speeches he raised the hopes of our countrymen very high, and they began to expect a good deal from him. But his actions soon removed the misconception, and they now believe that he has done them more harm than even the unpopular and unsympathetic Lord Lytton, to whom Lord Curzon has been likened in more respects than one. In his speeches in London he endeavoured to prove that he had created a veritable paradise in this country, but we all know that that paradise exists only in his own excited imagination. No speech by Lord Curzon is, in his own estimation, complete without a defence of the Delhi Darbar. That great function which cost the impoverished exchequer of this country quite a mint of money enabled Lord Curzon to satisfy the greatest ambition of his life, *viz.*, to play the Great Mogul in an assemblage of unprecedented splendour and magnificence in the capital of the Moghul Empire. It is rank nonsense to say that the Darbar brought to a focus the loyalty of the Princes and people of India to the British throne. The Princes and people of India are thoroughly loyal to the British Sovereign and the British Nation. Those who denounce Lord Curzon's pet Darbar in the strongest language at their command are not a whit less loyal for that. Considered as a mere spectacle the Darbar was a splendid success, but viewed from the financial standpoint it cannot but be characterised as a most culpable piece of extravagance without the least justification in principle or utility."

The National Congress and the Muhammadans of Bombay.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 20th August 1904, says that recently it published a list of the Muhammadan members of the Reception Committee of the coming National Congress. Considering the attitude of Muhammadans towards the Congress, the inclusion in the list of the names of certain influential Musalmans of Bombay has caused some surprise to certain readers of the *Paisa Akhbar*. To the Editor, however, there is nothing to be surprised at in this, seeing that in his presidential address at the last Educational Conference Mr. Justice Tayyabji strongly supported the aims and objects of the Congress, and several of the Prophet's followers, notably Qazi Kabir-ud-din Ahmad, Secretary of the Reception Committee of the said Conference, and Nawabzada Nasrulla Khan, Secretary of the Provincial Educational Conference, Bombay, have attended several sessions of the Congress. He adds that his own views regarding the movement have been expressed in more than one article, and that as an Indian he approves of the aims and objects of the Congress. If, therefore, his co-religionists of Bombay, who include several men of light and leading, and are able to form an adequate idea of the requirements of the country and their brethern in faith, consider themselves in a position to take part in the deliberations of the Congress, he for one has nothing to say against the wisdom of their decision.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 14th August 1904, disapproves of the Amir's leaning towards European civilisation and of the importation into Kabul of two English Doctors. It is of opinion that if His Highness can do nothing to facilitate the study of medicine in his own territories, he should at least send a few Afghan youths annually to Indian Medical Colleges or the *Madrasa-i-Tabia*, Delhi.

The present Amir and European Civilisation.

III.—Native States.

4. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 16th August 1904, says that the Postal system now in existence in India owes its origin to the British Government For a long time past feudatory States have been allowed to make their own Postal arrangements, just as they were at liberty to strike their own coins. Of late, however, Government seems to have changed its policy in this respect ; and the wisdom of the change is not apparent. It is true that the existing diversity between the Postal systems obtaining in British territory and in Native States is a source of inconvenience to merchants and others residing in British territory ; for instance, in the matter of paying double postage on letters, &c., received from or despatched to the said States. But, on the other hand, it should not be lost sight of that Indian Princes consider it an honour to be allowed to make their own Postal arrangements, and are loth to forego the privilege. The best way out of the difficulty would, therefore, have been to constitute a sort of "Postal Union" between British territory and Native States, whereby postage stamps in use in one would be accepted at their face value in the other. It would, however, appear that Government is not inclined to adopt this course. It has already deprived Kashmir of its privileges in connection with Postal arrangements, and steps are being taken to take over charge of the Post Office of Hyderabad also. The Editor would have Lord Curzon reconsider the question on his return to India, including in the proposed union all the principal States as well as Kabul. He is also of opinion that Native States should be allowed to strike their own coins, the some being made legal tender in British territory.

Government and Postal arrangements in Native States.

5. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th August 1904, says that the Police in British territory having got into bad odour, the Government has had to exert itself to cope with the evil. It has not only spent much valuable time in the attempt, but in all probability will have to raise the rates of pay of the Police, with a view to attracting a better class of men. But while so solicitous of the welfare of its own subjects, Government seems wholly indifferent to that of the residents of Native States. These States being its feudatories, it is equally responsible for the security of the lives and property of their subjects. Besides, it is an open secret that certain criminal tribes which subsist on plunder and are known to carry their depredations into British territory reside in Native States. The Editor then suggests that Government should improve the Police throughout India just as it has done

The Police in Native States.

in the case of the Postal Department in all parts of the country. He is of opinion that the money now wasted by Indian Princes in maintaining troops, which serve no useful purpose, should be utilised for improving their Police.

Native Societies and Religious Matters.

The Bombay Government and Pilgrimage to the Hedjaz.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 17th August 1904, says that the Bombay Government has issued a notification to the effect that in future every pilgrim to the Hedjaz will have to deposit with a Government Officer the cost of his railway ticket back to the place or country from which he comes. The Editor approves of the arrangement, and remarks that it will prevent the thronging of the bazars of Bombay with indigent Hajis, as was the case last year, and relieve the residents of that city of the burden of finding money to send them back to their homes. He adds that a very large number of pilgrims are reduced to a state of abject poverty by the time they reach Jeddah, and find it next to impossible to return to Bombay. The Editor would request Government to take this point also into consideration and do something to prevent such Hajis starving at Jeddah, a fate which befell a large number of them during the last pilgrimage.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 3rd September 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Hedjaz Railway.

1. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd August 1904, asserts that those Indian Muhammadans who collect subscriptions for the Hedjaz Railway are inflicting loss on their country and community. They should never forget that the scheme is based on political considerations, and that their conduct in lending it support cannot possibly be agreeable to Government. It is true that the authorities entertain no misgivings on the point, but that is no reason why the Prophet's followers should overlook the political aspect of the scheme and go on committing a mistake.

The same.

2. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 23rd August 1904, publishes similar remarks.

(b)—Home.

Lord Curzon.

3. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 22nd August 1904, remarks that it is to be hoped that during the extension of office granted to him Lord Curzon will exert himself to promote the welfare of the people. His Lordship should not merely strengthen the foundations of British rule in India, but should ensure the advancement of Natives in every walk of life. It may be added that His Lordship has more than once waxed eloquent about the "unification" of India, but that it remains to be seen whether he will do anything practical in that direction.

The same.

4. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 24th August 1904, is at a loss to understand in recognition of what services Lord Curzon has been presented with the Freedom of the City of London. Is it the extravagance indulged in by him in connection with the Delhi Darbar during a period of famine and pestilence which has commended itself to the people of London? Or do they

consider him deserving of honour for trying to suppress higher education in India by passing the Universities Act, and for depriving newspapers of their liberty by amending the law relating to official secrets ? Or is it that they are pleased with him for partitioning the Punjab and Bengal, creating complications in the Persian Gulf, keeping secret the Report of the Police Commission and despatching an expedition against Tibet and wounding the feelings of Native Chiefs ? The speech delivered by Lord Curzon on the occasion will, however, show that the poor simpletons who presented him with the freedom know nothing of Indian affairs, are wholly ignorant of the requirements of this country, and do not care much for England's greatest dependency. The Editor then expresses surprise that Statesmen like Lord Curzon who show themselves to be liberal-minded in England should behave quite differently in India. He further remarks that if it should be under contemplation to rule India on the lines in vogue two or three centuries back, Lord Curzon is eminently suited for the task. Again, if " empty talk and profitless labour " are among the qualifications of the King Emperor's representative in this country, then, also, His Lordship should make an ideal Viceroy.

India and the British Public and Parliament.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 24th August 1904, says that in one of his recent speeches it was remarked by Lord Curzon that India was an invaluable jewel in the British Crown. It is, however, to be regretted that since 1890 the British public have set no store by this jewel. There are very few members of Parliament who take any interest in Indian affairs, while those who do feel for this country are treated as if they were not gentlemen. It is true that the present state of affairs is due partly to the fact that those who endeavour to direct the attention of the British public and Parliament to Indian matters belong to the National Congress, which is regarded as a dangerous body in Great Britain. But there is no reason why violent speech and improper criticism on the part of a few misguided spirits among educated Natives should render the whole population the object of the anger of the rulers. The Editor adds that if Lord Curzon succeeds in making the British public and Parliament take greater interest in the affairs of this country, they will cease to regard writings and speeches by Anglo-Indians as Gospel truth, and will see that India is treated justly.

The Amritsar Sedition case.

6. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th August 1904, says that those who publish seditious or libellous articles under the impression that they can save themselves by pleading an *alibi* should undeceive themselves by carefully reading the judgment of the District Magistrate in the Amritsar sedition case. It is really fortunate for the accused in the said case, adds the Editor, that the incriminating article was published at a peaceful time like the present, and has exercised no undesirable influence on the public mind. Had, however, such writing appeared in a period of restlessness, the Editor and the printer of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* would assuredly have received the full amount of punishment prescribed by Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code. Those connected with newspapers should henceforth be very careful what they write, the Press not being meant to spread feelings of disaffection towards Government. Newspapers are of course free to criticise the administration of

Government, and can suggest political as well as social reforms. And if they are honest in the performance of their self-imposed duty, they can render highly valuable services to both Government and the people.

Native Societies and Religious Matters.

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th August 1904, says that evidently there is some fascination about the name of Christ, seeing that every one assuming it attracts considerable attention. The case of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, who is more widely known as "The Promised Messiah" than Mehdi is an instance in point. Again, about three quarters of a century back one Muhammad Ali *alias* Bab, a native of Persia, called himself by the same name, laid the foundation of a new sect, Babism, and gained considerable notoriety. His successor, Shah Baba-ulla, who was a great orator, also assumed the name of Messiah and won greater renown than his master. He infused a new spirit into his co-religionists, so that even the most rigorous persecutions by the State could not make then abjure their faith. The more they were oppressed the faster their numbers increased, with the result that at present several lakhs of Babis are to be found in Persia, Turkistan, Asia Minor, and Russia, &c. The Editor then institutes a comparison between the "Prophet of Qadian" and the Persian, remarking that while the followers of the latter had to undergo the severest possible ordeals, those of the former had, comparatively speaking, to pass through no trials. Moreover, Ghulam Ahmad cannot be compared with Baba-ulla so far as oratory and learning are concerned, and must, therefore, be pronounced inferior to the great disciple of Bab. The Editor further remarks that one Mirza Muhammad, a Babi Missionary, who is at present staying at Lahore, has requested him to announce through the *Paisa Akhbar* that he is willing to disprove the Mirza's claims to being the Promised Messiah and Mehdi.

Mirza Ghulam Ahmad of Qadian.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

8. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 22nd August 1904, complains that the Punjab is by no means the only Province where the claims of Muhammadans to responsible posts under Government are ignored. Not very long ago a European was appointed to succeed Mr. Amir Ali on the bench of the Calcutta High Court, and that in the teeth of opposition from both the Muhammadan and the Hindu Press of Bengal. Again, the post of Additional Judge recently created in that Court has also been given to a non-Muhammadan, despite the fact that there is no dearth of competent Muhammadans. The result is that at present there is not a single Muhammadan on the highest judicial tribunal in Bengal, which Presidency contains a large Musalman population.

The Calcutta High Court Bench and Muhammadans.

(*d*)—*Education.*

9. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 27th August 1904, remarks that, as directed by the Government of India, Agricultural Schools are to be opened in every province, the work having already been taken in hand in the Punjab. The

The proposed Schools for Agriculturists.

Editor adds that Urdu, which has so much in common with Persian, being the *lingua franca* of the Punjab, the Local Government should not exclude the latter language from the curriculum of the proposed schools, for the reason that this will be tantamount to chaining Punjabi *zamindars* and cultivators to their own homes and preventing them from earning a livelihood abroad, especially in the Frontier Province, the mother tongue of the residents of which—Pashtu—is an off-shoot of Persian. He then goes on to say that the contemplated institutions alone can never put an end to the poverty of agriculturists, *viz.*, of the majority of the population. Those who receive instruction at the said schools may succeed in increasing their income from land, but what guarantee is there that the increase will not be swallowed up by the enhancement of the land revenue every tenth or twentieth year? The first thing to be done, says the Editor, in order to banish poverty from among the agricultural population is to assess the revenue lightly. For instance, cultivators paying the demand direct should not be assessed at more than 50 per cent. of the produce, minus the expenses of cultivation, which latter concession need not be made in favour of *zamindars* (land-owners) having direct dealings with Government. Again, there should be an interval of at least 30 years between each settlement, while the enhancement made should never exceed 6¼ per cent. As it is, however, the schools referred to will not, in the long run, prove more beneficial to the people than those already in existence. They may catch the fancy of agriculturists at first, but the effect is certain to wear off soon. And when the disillusionment comes the money and labour spent in acquiring education at these institutions will be regarded as having been thrown away.

The difficulties of Native Civilians.

10. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 22nd August 1904, remarks that the real ruler of India is the District Magistrate, who also goes by the name of Collector or Deputy Commissioner. At first the Indian Civil Service was recruited by nomination; and as the nominees always consisted of high-born young men they were mindful of the welfare of the Native gentry and mixed with the latter on terms of equality. The replacement of nomination by competition and the raising of the standard of education have, however, introduced quite a new order of things. One of the results of the change is that Indian youths also have secured entry into the Civil Service of the country, and at present there are three able Native District Magistrates in the Panjab. Their lot is, however, far from enviable. It is a very easy thing for an English Civilian to manage a district, inasmuch as being a member of the ruling race, he profits by the prestige and greatness of his nation. He can commit any number of irregularities without impairing his prestige or laying himself open to a charge of favouring his co-religionists. Again, no one dare complain against him to the Local Government, which is not in the habit of listening to such complaints. A Native in charge of a district, however, fares quite differently. He has to walk on the edge of a sword, so to say, and is always apprehensive lest he may be charged with being partial to the people of his own community. The result is that sometimes the latter cannot expect to receive justice from him and wish that their Deputy Commissioner were an Englishman. In short, the poor Native District Magistrate leads a miserable life, even though he be an incarnation of Justice. He is distrusted by both the rulers and the ruled, and has to conduct himself with extreme

caution and prudence. Should he, like his English *confrere*, keep himself aloof from the local *raises*, he is accused of being proud, while in case of his having friendly relations with some of them, the people try to take undue advantage of this unselfish friendship and thereby help to bring him into discredit. The Native Civilians in the Punjab have their difficulties added to by a certain "National" newspaper published in this Province (the reference is to the *Observer* of Lahore). The policy followed by this paper is so patent that anybody can safely predict what it is likely to write on a certain subject even ten years hence. Were a member of the community which it presumes to serve to commit even wilful murder it would try to prove his innocence and make him out to be an angel. On the other hand, every member of the (Hindu) community, which it takes for an enemy, is, according to it, deserving of being hanged and quartered. The Editor is afraid that if this state of affairs continues much longer the latter community will be compelled to start a newspaper in opposition to the one in question, though the day will be an evil one for the country. It is true, he adds, that prints of this description can work no material injury to the Native officers of Government, but there is nothing to prevent them from publishing unfounded complaints against the latter.

Anti-plague Inoculation.

11. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 22nd August 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer deprecates the hesitation of the educated residents of Lahore to have themselves inoculated merely because the report of the Commission appointed to enquire into the Malkowal mishap has been withheld from the public. He is, however, at a loss to understand what more they wish to know about that deplorable incident, everything in connection with it having been laid bare in a certain review by the Lieutenant-Governor and in the plague pamphlet by Mr. Hallifax, Deputy Commissioner of Lahore. The correspondent then goes on to say that he has undergone inoculation twice, and that neither time did he experience the least inconvenience. Apart from errors, he adds, to which every human being is liable, inoculation is the best preventive known against the plague. He impresses upon his fellow-countrymen that Government is no enemy of theirs that it should resort to the operation in question in order to kill them off. He says that Government loves the people better than parents love their children; and he exhorts the latter to have themselves inoculated without delay.

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I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd September 1904, says that although Colonel Younghusband has now been at Lhassa for some six weeks, none of the objects with which the Tibet Mission was despatched have yet been gained. All that has so far been effected is to secure the release of the two British subjects who were in captivity at Lhassa. The paper goes on to say that the tax-payer of India may justly demand a *quid pro quo* in respect of the money spent on the Mission, but that it is evident no permanent advantage will be derived from the visit to Lhassa. The reputed wealth of the Tibetans is a myth and the indemnity is not likely to be paid, while the safe return of the Mission is doubtful. The news of the British advance to Lhassa has spread throughout Central Asia and the insult offered to the Buddhists, generally, by the invasion of their Holy City constitutes a danger as serious as the much talked of "Yellow Peril," India being "surrounded on all sides by countries professing Buddhism."

The Tibet Mission.

2. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of 10th September 1904, writes as follows:—

Mr. Balfour's Ministry.

"We are glad to note that the rumour about the fall of the present ministry and the General Election has changed into a certainty. It is the constitution of the Parliament that a majority of opposition members puts an end to the life of a ministry, but Mr. Balfour has openly violated this constitution many times during his *régime*, when the majority was against him or when some of the Cabinet ministers resigned. Of late, signs of the disruption of the present ministry have been imminent and, it seems, that it is now in a tottering condition. These are glad tidings for the Indians, inasmuch as the change of the ministry might materially affect Indian politics and a change for the better may happen. The Bengal Press has been alive to the occasion and has come forward with a proposal to send a deputation of the Indians to lay their grievances before the English public on the eve of the General Election. We, Punjabis, should also stir ourselves up and join the movement heartily in order to make it a complete success. Money should be liberally offered for this purpose and every effort made to organise the deputation as early as possible. There is no reason why the Punjabis should desist from associating themselves with political agitation, more so when there is a probability of its bearing some fruit in the near future."

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Military Expenditure of India.

3. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 30th August 1904, remarks that the increase of pay recently given to British soldiers in India has imposed a further burden of £ 786,000 a year on the already impoverished Indian tax-payer. Lord Curzon entered a strong protest against the imposition, but His Lordship's views received scant consideration at the hands of Parliament, notwithstanding the fact that the strength of the British garrison in India is far in excess of the requirements of the country.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

Government and the Amir.

4. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 27th August 1904, says that India seems to have fallen on evil days and is constantly in the grip of some misfortune. Of late her relations with Kabul have become greatly strained, and this has given rise to the fear that the Amir may throw in his lot with Russia. And the fact that, since the death of his father, Habibulla Khan has not drawn the subsidy allowed him by the Government of India would seem to lend colour to the rumour that he has been won over by the Czar. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* refuses to believe the rumour, although it admits that a Russian invasion of India from the Kabul direction is a real danger. Government however, it adds, is always prepared to meet this contingency.

VII.—General Administration.

(*f*).—*Railways and communications.*

The Financial Condition of Indian Railways.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1904, enumerates the advantages which the construction of railways in India has conferred on the country. It, however, regrets that the financial condition of the lines in existence is the reverse of satisfactory, and that they are so many white elephants maintained at the expense of the Indian tax-payer. The Editor then publishes the substance of an article which has recently appeared in the *Indian People* (Allahabad) on the subject, and says that the best way to remedy the evil is to construct railways with Indian capital and on commercial principles.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

The District Officer.

6. In connection with articles on Indian Administration which have recently appeared in the *Times*, the *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi) of the 7th September 1904, thus delivers itself :—

"The *Times* has taken upon itself the sacred task of enlightening the minds of the British people about the Indian affairs by writing a series of articles on various subjects concerning Indian administration. * * * On a deeper examination of the articles, we find that the aim of the author is also to enhance the beauty of the central picture by some side figures. These side pictures are nothing but a brief description of the ways in which India is governed and thereby make Lord Curzon's rule more popular. Among these side pictures, one that was recently

exhibited was a representation of the District Officer in India and the manner of his administration. It is one of the finest and the most complete pictures on the sides of the central portrait, but it is not a faithful representation of the original. It gives us an idea of the dark side of the District Officer's life in India, but the bright side which is more prominent in the original has been left out in the picture diliberately in order to mislead public opinion of England. Moreover, the facts have been twisted and distorted, in certain cases, to serve the purpose of the artist. This leads us to think that these articles instead of doing any good to India will cause her a great harm. We admit that the District Officer has one of the hardest and the most responsible duties to perform inasmuch as he is a mighty factor in the administration of the country. We admit that his life is monotonous and solitary too in some cases, and that he is sometimes overworked, but amidst all these traits and inconvenience is one advantage which far outweighs the numerous disadvantages. It is the advantage of possessing the ruling power. * * * Again, he never feels lonely, because in every head-quarter of a district, there is a regular colony of Europeans, with a *Company Bag*, regimental band in attendance, a club, and a gymkhana. He possesses the finest house in the station built for him by the Government and has under him two or three Extra Assistant Commissioners who would move at his sweet will and would rather feel themselves fortunate in carrying out his orders. In short, he is the *Bara Sahib*—nay the Maharaja of the place, according to native conception. He has, again, not to work from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M. like his Judicial and Executive subordinates, but keeps himself mostly at home, smoking or snoring away the time or goes out on *Shikar*, just as Lord Curzon goes to Kashmir and other States. It is his Head Clerk who carries out all his duties and generally overworks himself. But, at the same time, his refraining from his official duties gives an undue influence in the hands of the Head Clerk, who is generally Eurasian. In most cases, he is himself the dupe of his Head Clerk because he is quite innocent of any legal or official knowledge and has consequently to wholly rely upon his Head Clerk. Instances are not wanting in which he displays the most shameful lack of knowledge of law and office routine. * * * Again, with the advent of the summer, the *Bara Sahib* goes to some hill station lying within his jurisdiction. So it is very seldom that he has to undergo the scorching heat of the plains. So much for his personal discomforts and inconveniences. Now as to his duties being responsible or monotonous, we can safely say that this is a fallacy. A District Officer's work is not at all uninteresting. If there is anything that is interesting in the whole administration work of India, it is the District Magistrate's duties. He is the wielder of the destiny of thousands who lie entirely at his mercy and is the *virtual Ma Bap* of the people. In this capacity, he can do immense good to the people and cannot feel the monotony of his work if he thinks that he is doing godly and pious work. But alas! he is shorn of all these qualities and is always given to enjoyment and pleasure-seeking. He misdirects and abuses his power. He wields an indomitable power within his jurisdiction which only becomes more oppressive on account of his being both a prosecutor and a judge, thanks to the combination of executive and judicial functions which is one of the most conspicuous features of British administration in India. He plays the rôle of a veritable Moghal Emperor and in most cases is not a whit loss oppressive in his rule than the wildest Draco. Like a cock who in his little imagination evidently thinks much of his dung-hill and considers himself the sole possessor of the world, the District Officer takes himself to be the owner of the soil, one who is the monarch of all he surveys and as if there is no one to dispute his right. Naturally therefore he grows despotic in his rule and soon becomes a downright Jingo. That is the life of a District Officer in India, a life which very few who are born with a silver spoon in their mouths can get to enjoy, and which is the most envious post in the whole Government of India. As a contemporory says, 'indeed, even the dark cloud of a District Officer's life is not without its silver lining. Why has the writer in the *Times* kept the silver lining altogether in the back ground?' We fervently desire that the *Times* will leave off this 'Curzonisation' campaign at the earliest opportunity. We can assure the writer of these articles that he cannot better serve India and the cause of her people than by refraining from writing any more article of this nature, calculated to injure the best interests of the Indians."

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 5th September 1904, says that shooting by British soldiers having led to the death of many Natives, and repeated complaints on the subject having appeared in the Press, the Commander-in-Chief was, some time back, pleased to impose certain restrictions in connection with the grant of shooting passes to soldiers. All well-wishers of the country will, however, be sorry to learn that His Excellency has now cancelled the Army Order in question. The Editor adds that until it can be proved that the British soldier has become proficient in the use of all vernacular dialects or that his very nature has undergone a complete change, the cancellation of the order must be pronounced premature.

Rules regarding the grant of Shooting Passes to Soldiers.

8. The same paper, of the 3rd September 1904, says that bribery and corruption are rampant among low-paid officials in all public courts and offices. The Government having, however, come to realise the evil, it may be relied upon to remedy the existing state of affairs, provided its highly-placed Anglo-Indian officers co-operate with it in the right spirit. But as ill-luck will have it, some of these officers entertain very absurd and erroneous notions regarding their Native subordinates. For instance, some of them are of opinion that all Native public servants, high as well as low, have a natural tendency to take bribes, losing sight of the fact that black sheep are to be found among their own countrymen also. He can refer to thousands of instances in which Native Government servants have scrupulously abstained from accepting illegal gratification throughout their long official career. The Editor further remarks that as a rule corruption prevails only among the holders of low-paid appointments, which better class natives do not consider it worth their while to accept. Another cause of the prevalence of the evil is to be found in the lax supervision exercised, while it is difficult to put down bribery so long as the standard of morality amongst the masses remains low. As, however, this is not likely to come to be improved soon, the evil complained of will be certain to take deeper root with the lapse of time. It is, therefore, desirable that something should be done to check it, and that at once. The Editor approves of the remedy suggested by the *Indian Review*, namely, that steps should be taken to persuade highly-placed European officers to keep themselves in touch with the people, so as to encourage the latter to take their grievances in person to their officers.

How to put down Bribery among low-paid Officials.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 5th September 1904, says that the Mission to Tibet will not only deeply influence the relations between Russia and England in Central Asia, but will add considerably to British prestige in Asia. It will also remove the fear of a Russian invasion of India from the north, for, in the event of a satisfactory treat ywith Tibet being concluded, the Tibetans will be assigned the duty of watching the northern frontier of India. And if British influence becomes paramount in Persia also, the defences of India will be complete, the North-West frontier being already safe from invasion. The *Vakil* suggests that the establishment of a protectorate over Tibet is the only way to put down Russian intrigues in that country.

England, Turkey and Russia.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1904, says that England's friendly attitude towards Japan is due chiefly to the latter being an enemy of Britain's old foe, Russia. British Statesmen may not openly avow this, but there can be no gainsaying the fact that, as has been remarked by certain French and German newspapers, it is England's battles that Japan is fighting in the Far East. It is to be regretted, however, that Great Britain's relations with Turkey should of late have become the reverse of cordial, notwithstanding that these two Powers recognise a common foe in Russia. And the fact that Muhammadans throughout the world, of whom the majority live under British rule, regard the Sultan as their Caliph makes it the more incumbent on England to pay due regard to the feelings of her Musalman subjects. More than once have British and Turkish forces fought shoulder to shoulder against their common enemy, and but for the pernicious influence exercised by the late Mr. Gladstone over his fellow-countrymen, the relations between the British Government and the Porte would have been friendly now. As it is, for the last ten years or so friendship between the two has been interrupted; and although England knew that Russia was at the bottom of the risings in Armenia and Macedonia she allowed herself to

be outwitted by the wily Bear and thus displeased on old friend, Turkey. And the result has been that, taking advantage of the situation, Germany has been supplanting Br itish trade in the Sultan's dominions.

The Russo-Japanese War.

3. The same paper of the 7th September 1904, says that a nation possessing the indomitable courage and perseverance of the Japanese sweeps away all obstacles before it. The Editor regrets that his fellow-countrymen lack the qualities which go to make a great Nation. The time has gone by when India produced great men, and the people of the country have become slaves to their inclinations. They could learn much from the example of Japan, who has raised herself, in some fifty years, from comparative obscurity to the zenith of fame.

(*b*)—*Home*.

Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji and the National Congress.

4. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 14th September 1904, writes as follows in connection with a panegyric on Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji which appeared in the *Behar News* on the occasion of the birthday of that gentleman, who is described as "the mightiest product of English rule" and the "Grand Old Man of India":—

"Some of our Indian patriots in England, and among them the hero of the eightieth birthday, despairing of making a head against the policy of 'reaction', 'repression' and 'retrogression' initiated by Lord Curzon, have gone so far as to invoke the aid of the English Socialists, though the poor Indians, we are sure, have no liking for these supporters, nor any sympathy with the efforts of their self-made advocates. The following resolution, however, supported by Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji was passed at a Socialist Congress, which recently held its sittings in Amsterdam: 'That this Congress of all the delegates of the workers of the civilised world, after having heard representatives of Great Britain and India, who showed how the British Government, by continually robbing and draining more and more the resources of the people, is purposely causing extreme pauperisation, and is creating the scourge of famine and privation on a greater and greater scale among more than 20,000,000 inhabitants of British territory in India, appeals to the workers of Great Britain to impress upon their Government the necessity of abandoning the present execrable and dishonourable system and of establishing self-government in the best practicable form by the Hindus themselves under British sovereignty.' Surely we can back up our Behar contemporary in saying that though not exceptional, such services are exceptionable; and we can very well do without them. It is ravings of this sort which do more harm than good to India; and while Mr. Naoroji and others of his kidney think, perhaps, that they are doing a service to India, we believe it is a distinct disservice to this country to indulge in such groundless and sweeping assertions. Here is the latest patriotic performance of the 'mightiest product of English rule!' God save us from our friends. If violent and baseless vituperations against the British Government alone constitute public service, then Mr. Dadahbai has performed great services, indeed. But that cannot be the view of sane and reasonable men."

"Indian Politics and Lord Curzon".

5. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 17th September 1904, writes as follows under the heading "Indian Politics and Lord Curzon."

"At the celebration of the eightieth birthday of Mr. Dadabhi Naoroji at Bombay, a speaker said few words of sound common-sense, which ought to be laid to heart by all

who profess to be Indian patriots. In reply to another speaker, who remarked that a feeling of despondency had settled down upon the educated community because of Lord Curzon's revolutionary policy, the former maintained that politics was an experimental science and that the difference in views between two statesmen did not justify any of them to impute sinister motives to another. 'If a ruler does harm, it has to be resisted, whatever his intentions may be. So all practical men have to ask themselves what is the harm that Lord Curzon's rule has done to the country and how it may be remedied. If they find any good work to be done in that direction, then they must work with all the hope which has sustained Mr. Dadabhai in his public career.' Our patriots only know screaming and frothing without themselves taking any steps to promote the welfare of their land of birth. They are earning the scorn of other nations by demanding of the British Government to remedy all the evils and miseries existing in India and doing little beyond denouncing the powers that be. As for their perseverance in any work which they deem of great advantage to the country, it is sufficient to point to the despondency which has settled down over them by the policy of one statesman. The coming Viceroy's policy has struck terror into their ranks and many of them have defected from their time-honoured principle of agitation.

"Those of our countrymen who are so much condemning the policy of the prospective Viceroy must have known from his bearing towards Indians and Europeans during his last term of office that he cannot stand bullying and threatening. The *Saturday Review* goes so far as to declare that when Lord Curzon was in the House of Commons the faults which occasionally peeped out were those of arrogance and pretentiousness, over-confidence in himself and want of consideration for others. Had they had the welfare of their country seriously at heart, Congress politicians, in dealing with such a man, would have trimmed their policy to the exigencies of the time and refrained from casting mud at a patrician Viceroy until he left India for good. That such a course would not have been straightforward would constitute no scruple with them, since they, being politicians, have not always insisted on exhibiting facts in their true light. Knowing the temper of Lord Curzon as they do, their efforts to slight him on his re-arrival cannot but be condemned by all true well-wishers of the country. It is reported that the Bombay City Corporation intend to tender an address of welcome to the coming Viceroy. This report has agitated the Congress papers and they are urging the Corporation not to think of such a thing, because it would be tantamount to confessing their mistake in not presenting an address to him when he left India. Can such a course commend itself to rational men and will it be conducive to the well-being of the country during Lord Curzon's second term of office?"

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

The Amir and the Government of India.

6. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th September 1904, says that in a note in one of its recent issues the *Pioneer* reports that of late parties of tribesmen, with local *Maliks*, have been going to Kabul to tender their allegiance to the Amir, and that His Highness seems to be desirous of raising Afridi troops on a large scale. Commenting on this the *Pioneer* expresses the opinion that Habibulla Khan's line of action is calculated to cause unrest throughout the region south of the Khaibar. For some time past, says the *Vakil*, the relations between Government and the Amir have been strained, owing to the latter having rufused to receive the subsidy allowed to the ruler of Kabul. Some people are under the impression that when the first remittance on this account, after Abdur Rahman's death, was about to be made, Habibulla Khan gave Government to understand that in the State papers at Kabul the amount was shown as tribute paid by India. This was unpalatable to the rulers of this country. Whatever the cause, some estrangement does exist between His Highness and Government, and no subsidy has as yet been paid or received.

The Amir is a door-keeper, so to say, and is paid only for the service rendered by him in this capacity. Were there no fear of a Russian invasion of India, his services would no longer be required. His other duty consists in preventing the warlike frontier tribes from raiding into British territory, without at the same time making friends with them or admitting them into his own territories. This is a very difficult and delicate task no doubt; but the Tirah Campaign has proved once for all that Government can do nothing with the said tribes direct, while it is inadvisable that the Tribesmen should settle in Afghanistan and so increase the Military strength of the Amir as to create an "Afghan Peril" for India. The Editor then goes on to say that the war in the Far East having completely prostrated Russia, a Russian invasion of this country will be impossible for a long time to come. In other words, for the next 25 years or so, during which Russia must recuperate her strength, India does not stand much in need of the services of the Amir and has, therefore, no necessity to humour him. And it is this which has made him think of establishing friendly relations with the Afridis—the most powerful and warlike frontier tribe—and accepting the allegiance of influential *jirgas*, which conduct he presumes to adopt as a defiance of the Government of India. The above may be facts or mere surmises on the Editor's part, but he has no doubt that the present state of affairs portends evil. He adds that with all his defects and shortcomings the Amir is not a coat of mail which can be put on during an emergency and hung on a peg in peaceful times. He knows full well that the oldest and the most accessible gate in the northern wall of India is Kabul, and that its key must always—in peace or war—be in the possession of Government. After referring to the impracticability of occupying Kabul, he observes that it is a thousand times more necessary for Government to keep its old friends pleased than to establish its prestige in Tibet or cultivate the friendship of Persia.

Afghanistan.

7. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1904:—

"The Amir of Kabul has of late been showing such activities as are likely to cause some flutter in the Anglo-Indian nest. The reader is aware of his recent proposal to raise 40,000 recruits for the Afghan Army. He has further announced that leading Chiefs bringing 1,000 men to the colours will receive the rank of Regimental Commandant, while those bringing 100 men will be made Company Officers. His Highness also proposes to pay the new regiments monthly. He has lately sent to Herat four mountain batteries, some machine-guns, some field artillery, and four thousand Kabul-made breech-loading rifles. The city has also been very strongly fortified. He recently rewarded the Afridi Jirgas, and more tribesmen are arriving at the capital to tender their allegiance to His Highness and receive rewards from him. What these rewards are for, we are at a loss to know."

IV.—Kine-Killing.

Kine-slaughter in India.

8. The *Sanatan Dharam Gazette* (Lahore), of the 4th September 1904, says that in the matter of affording protection to cows the present age does not compare favourably with the past. Indeed, the killing of these animals was wholly unknown in former times, while the evil has assumed alarming

proportions during the present age, which is rightly called the *Kaljoga* (the Hindu Iron Age). The Editor urges his co-religionists to exert themselves to protect the sacred cow by establishing *pinjrapols* ("Homes" for cattle) in every city.

VI.—Legislation.

The Indian Universities Act.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th September 1904, says that the Universities Act which comes into force from the 1st September will always be regarded as Lord Curzon's most pernicious piece of legislation. It will not only lead to the introduction of drastic changes into the existing educational system, but is calculated to deal a death-blow to the educational policy of Lord Macaulay and others well-wishers of India. Again, the recent fixing of the territorial limits of the various Universities will oblige Colleges in the Central Provinces, the Berars and Hyderabad, &c., to change their curricula and send up their pupils for different examinations at a University other than that with which they have hitherto been dealing, which is very hard on the students concerned. No College, moreover, will now prepare students for the examinations of two different Universities, which will lessen the chances of the success of its pupils.

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*)—*Judicial.*

The Administration of Justice in India.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1904, publishes a letter from an "esteemed correspondent" describing a wholesale sacrifice of animals and birds which the writer says he witnessed in Nipalese territory on the day of the *Ashtami Puja*. "Is there a parallel in this wide world to such a thing?" asks the writer. "There is" says the *Tribune*. "Recently, before the Sessions Judge of Allahabad, eight persons were put on their trial on a charge of murdering a fellow-villager and then throwing the dead body into the river, under Section 302 of the Indian Penal Code. The Judge found the murder proved, and found it also necessary to hang somebody. But not being able to find out which one of the eight persons had given the finishing stroke, the learned Judge has sentenced *all* the accused to be hanged by the neck until death, evidently thinking that the right man to be hanged must be one of them! By the way, this is not the first time in India that this barbarous method of punishment—abolished long ago in all other civilised countries—has been resorted to under the auspices of the British Raj."

(*d*)—*Education.*

The proposed Schools for Agriculturists.

11. The *Zamindar* (Lahore), of the 8th September 1904, is glad to announce that the Punjab Government have at last come to realise the desirability of prescribing a separate course of studies for Village Schools, and have recently issued the necessary instructions on the subject. The Editor feels confident that the difficulty now experienced in procuring suitable teachers will be overcome in a year or so, as the Lahore Normal School has taken upon itself the task of training the teachers required. He adds that with a view to popularising the above institutions, scholarships should be given to poor students,

while *Zamindars* who help to spread education among their tenants, &c., should get titles and other rewards. He then suggests that members of the agricultural community alone should be deemed eligible for the office of Patwari, it being also ruled that only literate men should be made Lambardars. The Editor is also of opinion that the majority of the agriculturists in this Province being Musalmans, it will be bad policy to exclude Persian from the curriculum of the proposed agricultural schools, especially as a knowledge of that language is essential to acquiring a mastery over Urdu, the Court language in the Punjab.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Muhammadans and Government Service.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th September 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that high educational qualifications are not essential to satisfactorily discharging the duties of public posts open to the children of the soil. He therefore fails to see why there should be such a paucity of Musalmans in Government service, especially when there is no dearth of graduates among them. Indeed, the Prophet's followers being no longer backward in English education it is much to be regretted that they should not get their fair share of Government appointments. The evil, adds the correspondent, is ascribable to a powerful clique (Hindus) having barred the door of the public service against his co-religionists ; and certain responsible European Officers connive at the injustice done to Muhammadans. Were they, however, to address themselves to the task of righting the wrong the complaint would soon become a thing of the past. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that the Postmaster-General, Punjab, having made up his mind to put down the existing state of affairs so far as his department was concerned, quite a number of Muhammadan graduates and under-graduates have recently secured appointments in that department. The writer then goes on to say that some one may object that the case of the Punjab is different from that of other parts of India, where there is no scarcity of educated Musalmans. He does not, however, admit the validity of the objection and would refer to the Madras Presidency in support of his contention. As far back as 1880, he says, there was only one Muhammadan Sub-Registrar in that Presidency. The number, however, rose to 15 within two years, and in 1895 there were as many as 30 Musalman Sub-Registrars. But since then things have changed for the worse, and the present head of the Registration Department not being favourably disposed towards the Prophet's followers, he has given them no more than six appointments out of the 120 made by him during the last nine years.

The Bombay Government and the case of the Natu Brothers.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 17th September 1904, writes :—

"*Public Opinion* of London observes :—'Nothing in the achievements of the Tibet expedition will impress the Indian peoples more than the release of two unfortunate Sikkim subjects of the King-Emperor who, for over a year, have been confined in the stocks of a Lhasa dungeon. The men were arrested as spies, beaten, and *without trial* plunged into a living tomb, as their prison must have appeared to them.' The release of these pies—as subjects of the King-Emperor—will no doubt impress the 'Indian peoples' as the least intolerable of 'the achievements of the Tibet Expedition.' As regards the justification of the crime, *viz.*, of throwing them into prison 'without trial,' *Public Opinion* forgets that the Tibetans only emulated the example of the Government of

Bombay in the case of the Natu brothers. Not only did the Bombay Government arrest them *without showing any ground whatever* for its high-handed action, but kept them prisoners within four walls *without trial*. The Tibetans, it may be noted, had shown cause why they were arresting the prisoners. Their only extraordinary proceeding appears to be that when they arrested them 'as spies,' they did not present them with a congratulatory address and lodge them in the best rooms of the Potala, but beat them and confined them in the stocks of a Lhasa dungeon. Regarding the undecided question, *viz.*, the cause of the expedition, *Public Opinion* wonders that neither Lord Curzon, nor his henchmen, nor the Radical Press of England, nor the 'malcontents among the educated Natives of India,' nor even those light-headed lieutenants of their megacephalous master who gravely informed the world that it was only to punish Tibetan goats for munching British grass—have been able to accurately gauge it! It was the arrest of those two men, and 'but for the outrage perpetrated in their capture it is quite possible that the Indian Government would *never have embarked on the expedition.*' Quite so, quite so. Here is the instructive moral of the whole business:—If the expedition did no more, it would have proved that a citizen of the British Empire, *whatever his race*, has behind him 'THE MIGHT OF THE EMPIRE.' The wonder is that this 'MIGHT OF THE EMPIRE' was conspicuous by its absence in the case of the two 'citizens of the British Empire' arrested *without cause* and kept prisoners for two long years *without trial* at the instance of the Bombay Government."

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I.—Politics.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Treaty with Tibet.

1. The *Curzon Gazette* (Lahore), of the 15th September 1904, says that the Treaty with Tibet has at last been signed and "an Agent has been appointed in that mountainous State." The Dalai Lama will soon discover that he has been fooled by Russia, as the Amir Sher Ali Khan was before him. He then congratulates Colonel Younghusband on having achieved more than was expected of him, and says that able officers have always been forthcoming to serve the British Government.

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 16th September 1904, remarks that the news that the Mission has finished its work has been received with joy by all classes of the people. Colonel Younghusband and his comrades thoroughly deserve the praise His Majesty the King Emperor has bestowed on them.

The same.

3. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 17th September 1904, writing on the same subject, says that the matter has ended satisfactorily and the newly-fledged Native politicians and the Bangali newspapers have no opportunity left to indulge in impertinent and irresponsible criticism. All this, as the *Times* has remarked, is due to the energy and tact displayed by Colonel Younghusband. The Editor then goes on to say that great questions, in connection with which professions do not usually accord with actual performances, are always attended with complications. For instance, the Mission to Tibet was an Expedition in disguise; and consequently Colonel Younghusband cannot escape the charge of having shed innocent blood and practised unnecessary oppression (*sic*) although had he from the first resorted to those peaceful

methods which he adopted towards the end, so great an outcry against the Mission would not have been raised in Europe. It must, however, be added that it was the conduct of the Tibetans themselves which compelled the Mission to change its character.

The same.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 20th September 1904, writes :—

"The provisions of the Treaty with Tibet are yet a sealed book to the Indian public, but the correspondent of the *Times* at Peking has telegraphed what purports to be a summary of its contents, from which it would appear that the general surmise as to a greater or less military occupation of the country is going to prove practically true. As will be seen from Reuter's telegram in another column, the Treaty consists of ten articles, the chief of which from the point of view of immediate interest is the payment by Tibet of an indemnity of half a million sterling—seventy-five lakhs of rupees!—in three yearly instalments. In order to ensure the payment of this indemnity British troops will occupy the Chumbi Valley until it has been paid down in full. It is to be feared that this indemnity question will prove the last straw to break the camel's back, and few sane men will be disposed to approve of the wisdom of the grabbing policy which prompted the demand. The Tibetans may have agreed to this term in order to ward off immediate danger, but that they will be unable to pay such a heavy sum is known as much to them as to their new British friends. One may therefore be justified in surmising that the stipulation has been put in by the latter, not that they ever hope to realise 75 lakhs of rupees from a nation of monks and shepherds, but in order that it may furnish an excuse for the permanent occupation of the Chumbi Valley. In other words, there will be practically a British Garrison in occupation of Tibet to keep the people in check and awe, leading by and by to the practical annexation of the country and the penetration of British influence into the life of the people. From this point of view it is no doubt a clever move, though its wisdom as a piece of statesmanship is seriously open to question. For among a people fanatically disposed it may lead to undesirable consequences easier than to those desired. It may keep up the subdued hatred and resentment with which undoubtedly the Tibetan representatives have signed the Treaty giving away their right to seclusion and living as they liked.

"The *Pioneer* is benevolent enough to suggest that the actual amount of the indemnity 'cannot be considered excessive, considering that from first to last the Government of India will have expended over a million sterling over this Tibetan affair'; further that 'some 22 [25?] lakhs annually for three years is an amount which the Lhassa authorities can collect readily enough, if they choose, by 'benevolences' from the richer monasteries supplemented by a poll tax levied upon the whole of the population or other similar measures.' This is charitable, indeed! Why the Tibetans should be compelled to raise money and tax themselves to meet the cost of an expedition which they never invited will no doubt furnish a knotty problem to ethical philosophers; but those who believe in the gospel of might is right do not feel any difficulty in finding a solution. So the *Pioneer* is not in the least troubled in its conscience to say that 'the Lamas have only their own contumacy to blame for the amount of the indemnity, as it was a fine which mounted up day by day while they were opposing the progress of the Mission from the Indian frontier. In the circumstances they have escaped lightly, and as no Political Resident is to be placed at Lhassa they have to some extent saved their face.' This is no doubt a practical application of the Christian doctrine of turning the right cheek when smitten the left. You invade a people's country without provocation, spread fire and sword through the land, kill innocent people whose only offence consisted in trying to defend their hearths and homes, and cause loss to whatever in the way of property they possessed—and when you have done your work of destruction you call for being recouped for your trouble and expense! Certainly no European Power—not even the Russians—would think of behaving in this manner with that other

Budhist Nation, the Japanese, at the present day. The offence of the Tibetans consisted not in what the *Pioneer* is pleased to call the 'contumacy' of the Lamas, but in their inability to use weapons of destruction with the fatal precision and facility which the Japanese have acquired. But probably the day may come when the *Pioneer* and others of its way of thinking shall find that the imposition of the indemnity was a great blunder, and the surest way of nullifying the whole treaty and of frustrating all reasonable hopes of 'friendly relations' following 'in course of time.' The deposition of Dalai Lama, reported elsewhere, can hardly improve matters."

British Indians in the Transvaal.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 24th September 1904, writing about Lord Milner's despatch on the subject of British Indians in the Transvaal, says :—

"... It reveals to what depths of un-British degradation this lost mind has sunk, and how little may be expected by way of redress of the inhuman disabilities our countrymen in the Transvaal are labouring under so long as this worse than Kruger autocrat remains the ruler of South Africa. * * * * *

"What for was all the abuse hurled at the devoted head of Mr. Kruger for his alleged sins in the treatment of Indians if, so soon as the Kruger régime was replaced by the British Government, British administrators were to out-Kruger Kruger? What for, as we have said above, did the Indians show so much genuine and feeling devotion to the British Throne in the dark days of the early months of the war and the Indian settlers in the Colonies of South Africa make common cause with their British fellow-subjects, if British administration to them should mean a much more barbarous and intolerable dispensation than the late Dutch régime? What are Parliamentary enactments and Royal Proclamations and Viceregal orations of sympathy and courage, if the moment Indians set foot on the soil of a British Colony (providing they are allowed to do so) they are to be considered as worse than beasts of burden?

"After the United Kingdom, India, the poorest portion of the Empire, is the most heavily burdened country for the sake of contributing towards Imperial expenditure. Even Mr. Chamberlain admitted in one of his speeches in South Africa that while India more than fully bore its share of the Imperial burdens the Colonies did not do so. And the response accorded to the begging invitation to pay a little more towards the cost of Imperial defence, by these tiny insolent people of the Colonies, was that if any attempt were made to touch their pockets they would be driven seriously to reconsider their position and even to think of going out of the Empire. India again does the largest trade with the United Kingdom, and she has had her flourishing industries deliberately killed for the sake of building the industrial prosperity of Britain on their ruin. To this day an anti-Indian policy is vigorously prosecuted to prevent the growth of manufacturing industries lest the people of India would cease to be the industrial serfs of the capitalist monarchs of Britain, while every self-governing Colony has built prohibitive tariff walls against the inroads of British manufactures. In a thousand and one other ways has India been made the sufferer and the loser by her connection with England, so much so that she has become the permanent victim of famine and pestilence. In nearly every important matter such constant deliberate injustice is being heartlessly inflicted on our countrymen that the country would long since have been lost to England if the people were not the politically and physically helpless, the resigned and philosophic and unworldly Hindus. No self-governing Colony inhabited by a white people would have allowed the sorry farce and shameful fraud to go on for five minutes without a rudely demonstrative protest....."

The probable effect on India of the Liao-Yang Victory.

6. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 12th September 1904, remarks that the Russian defeat at Liao-Yang is calculated to prove highly beneficial to India, inasmuch as it will be certain to add to her prosperity. The present

poverty of India is due to excessive taxation, which is the result of the various Afghan wars and the numberless frontier expeditions undertaken, which were necessitated by Russian activity in Central Asia. And as the crushing defeat sustained by the Russians at Liao-Yang is calculated to open the eyes of the Muscovite Government, there is a probability of Russia giving up her policy of aggression, which cannot but augur well for this country. At all events, she must take some 25 years to recuperate her strength, which respite must mean a world of good to India.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

Suspicious Warlike preparations by the Amir.

7. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 13th September 1904, says that it has been reported that the Amir is about to increase the strength of his army by no less than 40,000 men. It is not, however, easy to guess what necessity there is for this: all is quiet in Afghanistan and its neighbourhood, while the rumour regarding the despatch of a frontier expedition on Lord Curzon's return to India is merely a canard. The Editor adds that the recent despatch to Herat of large quantities of arms and ammunition is another suspicious proceeding on the part of Habibulla Khan and goes to show that His Highness is making secret preparations for war—against whom it is not easy to say. And the fact of as many as 70 Afridi *Maliks* and 300 members of the various frontier tribes having been summoned to Kabul not long ago helps to darken the mystery still further.

III.—Native States.

Poonch affairs.

8. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 10th September 1904, alleges that the grossest oppression is practised in the State of Poonch. The Raja and his officials carry on the administration in a tyrannical manner and subject the people to undeserved hardships. As an instance in point, it may be mentioned that some time back the wives and children of some *zamindars* were thrown into prison in order to compel them to bring pressure to bear on the agriculturists concerned to cede their proprietary rights in land to the Raja. After remarking that Diwan Mohkam Chand is at the bottom of the existing state of affairs, the Editor alleges that as long as that official remains in Poonch, the *zamindars* will have no chance of taking their grievances to their ruler direct.

VII.—General Administration.

(*f*).—*Railways and Communications.*

The proposed Railway Board.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (weekly edition) of Lahore, dated the 17th September 1904, expresses satisfaction at the proposed appointment of a Railway Board for this country. The change will be certain to bring about the needed reforms in the Railway Department, provided the Board work with a view to benefiting the children of the soil and try to help forward the industrial and commercial development of India. The chief object of the Board should be to make arrangements for the construction of future railways with Indian capital, encouraging Native capitalists to invest money in the concerns. It should also encourage District and Local Boards to construct light railways to supply local requirements.

10. The same paper of the 19th September 1904 says that, thanks to Lord Curzon, certain of the Indian Railways have redressed some of the grievances of Third Class passengers, *e.g.*, latrines have been provided in Third-class carriages. It is, however, to be regretted that no steps have yet been taken to prevent overcrowding in these carriages and the packing of passengers in goods waggons on the occasion of fairs and pilgrimages, which objectionable practices not only breed sickness, but enable thieves to rob passengers.

Grievances of Third Class passengers.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

11. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 24th September 1904, writes :—

Lady Curzon's illness.

"All India must feel sincerely grieved at the news of the serious illness of Lady Curzon, and offer their hearty sympathy to her illustrious husband, forgetting for the time any bitterness of feeling they may entertain towards him. The case must be such as to cause anxiety, seeing that it has postponed Lord Curzon's departure for India. After His Lordship's own attack of neuritis, from which he can hardly have fully recovered, this prostration of his beloved wife must be proving a severe trial to his nerves. A man of His Lordship's strong nature may succeed in getting over these trials, but coming on the eve of his departure for India they may have the effect of making him feel how helpless is man after all, and how totally subject to dispensations from above. A man who arranges the fates of Empires and decides the destinies of nations cannot be sure as to his own movements, and his immediate plans may be upset by an unforeseen accident. Should it not strike Lord Curzon that the fate of Empires and nations and individuals is in the hands of One who is above us all, and that the best we can do is to subserve the Great Dispensation by helping peace and good-will among mankind instead of raising bad blood and engendering causes of dissatisfaction to any? While praying for her ladyship's speedy recovery, in which we sincerely join, let us hope Lord Curzon will realise that softness of heart is sometimes a greater power than hardness of purpose, and that leniency in rule may on occasions prove more effective than the rod of iron."

Panjab Government Branch Press, Simla—29-9-04—70.

[Confidential.]

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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(f)—Railways and Communications—

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER 1904.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 "
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	250 "
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	700 "
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 "
6	Punjab Chronicle ...	Mooltan ...	M. Baksi & Sons ...	200 "
	MONTHLY.			
7	Khalsa Advocate ...	Amritsar ...	Khalsa Advocate Committee.	1,000 "
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
8	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	2,000 "
9	Paisa Akbhar ...	Do. ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	700 "
10	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	200 "
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
11	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Muhammad ...	1,100 "
	BI-WEEKLY.			
12	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	2,000 "
	WEEKLY.			
13	Ahluwalia Gazette ...	Amritsar ...	Barkat Singh ...	250 "
14	Ajaib-ul-Akhbar ...	Mianwali ...	Girdhari Lal ...	200 "
15	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 "
16	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	1,000 "
17	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	550 "

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	URDU—CONTINUED WEEKLY—*continued.*			
18	Bharat ...	Sialkot ...	Sundar Lal ...	250 copies.
19	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Saraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 "
20	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,250 "
21	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,000 "
22	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, District Shahpur	Ram Labhaya ...	400 "
23	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	1,200 "
24	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,200 "
25	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	1,000 "
26	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Husain ...	150 "
27	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	80 "
28	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	100 "
29	Koh-i-Nur ...	Lahore ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 "
30	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 "
31	Mister Gazette ...	Do. ...	Ali Bakhsh ...	150 "
32	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 "
33	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,500 "
34	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 "
35	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Bishen Singh ...	1,000 "
36	Public ...	Ludhiana ...	Nathu Lal ...	300 "
37	Public Magazine ...	Amritsar ...	Harji Ram ...	500 "
38	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 "
39	Panja-i-Faulad ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Din ...	750 "
40	Railway and Engineering News ...	Jullundur ...	Kishen Dial ...	300 "
41	Review ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub Beg, B.A. ...	200 "

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42	Sada-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Din Muhammad ...	500 copies.
43	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ula ...	366 „
44	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Rewari ...	Maqbul Husain ...	700 „
45	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Hari Kishen ...	600 „
46	Sat Dharm Parcharak ...	Jullundur city ...	Munshi Ram ...	1,005 „
47	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	500 „
48	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	500 „
49	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mir Mumtaz Ali ...	240 „
50	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,469 „
51	Wafadar Dehli Punch ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 „
52	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,800 „
53	Zamindar ...	Do. ...	Siraj-ud-din ...	800 „
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
54	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	900 „
	MONTHLY.			
55	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar ...	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 „
56	Isha't-ul-Quran ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Chattu ...	300 „
57	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Do. ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 „
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
58	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 „

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 1st October 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Treaty with Tibet.

1. The *Paisa Akbhar* (Lahore), of the 21st September 1904, remarks that it is at a loss to understand whence the Tibetans will find the money to pay an indemnity of seventy-five lakhs. Perhaps they have been saddled with this unbearable burden with the object of securing possession of the Chumbi Valley. The condition binding Tibet to establish a market at Gantok is also incomprehensible, seeing that that town is situated in Sikkim and no power can be held responsible for establishing a market within the dominions of another.

The same.

2. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 21st September 1904, says the although the terms of the Treaty have been kept secret, it is said that the agreement is only a duplicate of the one formerly entered into with Tibet through the Chinese Amban. Besides, it is highly probable that on his return to Lhassa the Dalai Lama will repudiate it. The position, therefore, is this, that the expedition which has so far cost about sixty lakhs of rupees has only succeeded in concluding a treaty regarding the observance of which there is very little hope. The *Panja-i-Faulad* further remarks that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, the *Pioneer*, &c., have expressed dissatisfaction with the results obtained by the expedition. These newspapers also disapprove of Government's action in acknowledging China's suzerainty over Tibet.

The same.

3. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 22nd September 1904, expresses satisfaction with the terms of the Treaty as cabled by the Peking correspondent of the *Times*.

4. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 22nd September 1904, remarks that Colonel Younghusband is a statesman of the first order, and deserves high praise for the admirable manner in which he has solved the Tibetan problem. The speech made by him after the signing of the new Treaty with Tibet deserves careful perusal and leaves no room for doubt that the Mission to the land of the Lamas was purely a commercial one.

The same.

5. The *Wafadar Dehli Punch* (Lahore), of the 22nd September 1904, says that the Tibetans, who had been instigated by Russia to defy the British Government, have at last submitted to the last-named. They have discovered that, while Russia's promises are only empty talk, the British Government always abides by its engagements and does its best to protect the lives and property of its subjects. Although it was they who commenced the fighting, still on their suing for peace they have been treated with a consideration which even their own Government would not have shown them. After remarking that the British Government is everywhere acknowledged to be more benevolent and just than the Russian Government, the Editor regrets that certain of His Majesty's native subjects should regard Turkey as their only hope.

The same.

(*b*).—*Home.*

6. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th September 1904, writes :—

The Native Press and Sedition.

"The Maharatta paper *Kal* of Poona has succeeded in drawing to itself the not very pleased attention of men in power by some writings more enthusiastic than wise, and there is suggestion in certain quarters that the journal should be prosecuted for sedition. The *Times of India* has printed lengthy translations from the offending articles, and in an editorial commenting upon them observes that continued silence on the part of the authorities with regard to such writings is 'liable to be very unfortunately misconstrued.' We have not a word to say in approval of either the spirit or the matter of the articles, but we feel not the slightest hesitation in saying that inattention on the part of the Government to such writings, instead of being liable to be 'unfortunately misconstrued,' is more likely to be construed in its favour as a proof of its solid strength and broadness of spirit. Surely the light of knowledge and appreciation of the blessings of the civilization with which British rule is identified have permeated deep and widely enough in Indian society at large not to make any considerable section of it liable to harbour evil designs against the Government by the views of extremists who write less from a feeling of hatred towards the powers that be than from a standpoint of more or less unrealisable ideals of their own. . . . . This, however, by the way. What we wish to drive at is that writers like the one of the articles in *Kal* from which we have quoted above are moved less by hatred towards the powers that be than by certain ideals which, far from making them dangerous people, rather place them in the category of the unpractical and dreamy. Government would only show its strength and its realisation of the broad basis upon which its power rests, and ought to rest, by ignoring such writings. Being the effusions of dreamy philosophers rather than murderous fanatics, they cannot influence any body for evil who has to face the practical business of life. The extremest step that may be required is to give the proprietor of the paper a warning that such writing, if it does not harm any body else, may bring harm upon the writer himself. Prosecution in such cases is likely not only to give greater publicity to these writings, but to create a feeling of bitterness in the minds of those concerned, the effects of which may be more undesirable than those of the

chastisement administered may be fruitable of good. That the bulk of the Indian Press disapproves of such writings as those for which the *Kal* is now taken to task, and for childlike effusions like that for which the Punjab Government levelled its big guns at the proprietor of the *Ahluwalia Gazette*, should be taken as ample proof by the authorities that the main current of Indian opinion is not at all affected by them, and that the best way to dispose of them is to administer a short (and if necessary a sharp) rebuke instead of launching upon elaborate proceedings."

Portions of the articles which appeared in the *Kal* are then reproduced by the *Tribune* "to satisfy the curiosity of the enquiring reader."

The same.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1904, remarks that the *Times of India* has published translations of several articles from the *Kal*, a Mahratta newspaper issued from Poona, and says that the writings are calculated to create feelings of disaffection towards Government. In case the translations are correct the Editor has no hesitation in endorsing the opinion of the *Times of India*, and feels assured that the Bombay Government will take notice of the articles referred to. He regrets that another sedition case is about to crop up in the country, and the more so that the Bombay Presidency, especially the *Mahrashtra*, is to come into bad odour again. He remarks that the institution of such cases not only prejudicially affects the administration, but helps to mislead the foreign enemies of Government regarding the people's attitudes towards it.

"The Rulers and the Ruled," by one Babu Lal, Sud, B.A.

8. The *Kapurthala Akhbar* (Kapurthala), of the 2nd July (received on the 26th September) 1904, announces that Babu Lal, Sud, B.A., has published in pamphlet form the lecture delivered by him before the "Cosmopolitan Society" of Lahore on the 23rd May last. The pamphlet, which is entitled "The Rulers and the Ruled," has been dedicated to Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji, and a copy of it has been sent to the *Kapurthala Akhbar* for review. The publication, says the Editor, endeavours to acquaint Government with the aims and objects of the National Congress in a respectful and impressive manner, while in the introduction the writer enumerates the blessings the British Government has conferred on India and refers to the exclusion of Natives from the higher posts in the public service of their country. After publishing a translation of the preface, the Editor says that the pamphlet can be had from the Student's Own Agency, Lahore, for two annas.

The same.

9. The same paper of the 3rd (received on the 29th) September 1904, publishes a communication from the writer of the pamphlet, who says that he has received the following letter from Mr. Dadabhai Naoroji :—

"LONDON,

"22 *Kensington Road, 4th August* 1904.

"MY DEAR SIR,

Your brother Mr. Nathu Ram has been good enough to hand me personally from you your pamphlet "Rulers and the Ruled."

"You have very kindly dedicated it to me and I offer you my sincere thanks for such generous appreciation of my work.

"I have read the pamphlet with interest. The question with which you end is the question of the day. Why the Rulers govern the Ruled in such unnatural manner when by a righteous rule both the Rulers and the Ruled would be benefited and blessed. To this question the reply must be pressed by ourselves upon the Rulers.

"The work of the Congress is to give this answer and by union and perseverance bring about a right understanding of the position and its remedy. I am glad that the importance of the union which the Congress is gradually bringing about among all Indians is beginning to be more and more understood and appreciated by our countrymen of all classes and creeds.

"Thanking you again,

"Yours truely,

"(Sd.) DADABHAI NAOROJI."

"BABU LAL, Sud, Esquire,
"*Lahore.*"

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Lady Curzon's illness.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th September 1904, remarks that however injurious to the interests of India Lord Curzon's policy may have been and however repugnant the idea of his return may be to the Native public, there is not a single Native who does not deeply sympathise with His Lordship as regards the cause of the postponement of his return and who is not sincerely grieved at the serious illness of Lady Curzon. Her Ladyship's sympathy with the people, her friendship to the poor, her encouragement of indigenous arts and her appreciation of Native customs have won her the affection and gratitude of the people of all parts of India. The entire population is grieved at her illness and prays the Almighty Physician to send her speedy and complete recovery.

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[Vol. XVII.] [No. 40.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 8th October 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

British policy in Asia.

1. The *Bharat* (Sialkot), of the 24th September 1904, says that the British policy in Asia has been to give way to the Russian Government on all occasions, the object in view being to preserve friendly relations between Great Britian and Russia. After deprecating the conduct of the Balfour Ministry in connection with the recent searching of British ships by Russia, the Editor remarks that in the event of Russian influence taking deeper root in Central Asia, it will become extremely difficult for England to retain India or any of her other Asiatic possessions. Indeed, but for the war with Japan, Russia would have invaded India by this time as is evident from the published Russian scheme for the invasion of this country.

The same.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th September 1904, writing on the same subject, remarks that the war in the Far East having exposed the weakness of Russia, the British Government should no longer submit to her in everything. Besides, the final object of British policy in Asia being to protect India, it is more to Great Britain's interest to cultivate the friendship of Japan than to secure the good will of Russia. The Government of India has the good of the British public so much at heart that it can no way be called the national Government of this country. Indeed, were this not so, it would never have consented to impose a burden on Native manufacturers in order to benefit the weavers of Lancashire. Nor would it have spent Rs. 60,00,000 on a useless expedition against Tibet, or countenanced the holding of the examination for the Civil Service of India in England. It would not also wound the feelings of the people by doing a score of other things.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st Octobler 1904, remarks that, notwithstanding their boasted humanity and philanthrophy, the Christian Powers of Europe rise against the Sultan on the flimsiest of pretexts. Should a Christian prefer a false charge of oppression against the Sultan, the wrath and indignation of these Powers is at once kindled and they hasten as one man to redress the imaginary wrong. In cases, however, in which a Christian Government is the oppressor and non-Christians the oppressed, all considerations of humanity and justice are cast to the winds. For instance, not the least notice has been taken of the merciless shooting of a number of Musalman labourers by the Christian Zamindars of Java in May last. "Verily the Christian Powers behold the mote that is in their brother's eye, but consider not the beam that is in their own."

The Christian Powers of Europe, and Turkey.

4. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 6th October 1904, writes :—

The Treaty with Tibet.

"It is easy to see from the comments of the Anglo-Indian papers which favour the Tibetan Expedition that they look forward to a long occupation of the country and extension of British influence therein tantamount to annexation. As we pointed out at the very beginning, the stipulation of a heavy indemnity was made, not so much in the hope of realising an impossible sum of money from a nation of monks and shepherds, as with the object of obtaining an excuse for prolonging occupation of the country. Tibetan affairs will now loom large in the mental view of both the Government of India and the Anglo-Indian philanthropists who wish to fill their pockets by civilising the Tibetans by means of trinkets and wine-bottles, and the necessity of seeing strictly to the carrying out of the Treaty will furnish the plea for treating Tibet as practically a part and parcel of the Indian Dependency. 'The trading facilities secured must be made real to be of any value,' observes the *Pioneer*, 'and friendly intercourse between Tibet and India must be promoted in order that British influence over the country may be of a healthy kind'—in other words, that British influence may be of such kind as is desired by British merchants and British officials of the Foreign Office. But that is not the whole of the prospect in view. 'There is the new road to the Chumbi Valley also to be built'—no doubt to help the continuance of the British force in the Valley till the time of realisation of the indemnity, which must be a very indefinite period, indeed. For even the *Pioneer* has now to confess in a manner that the recovery of the fine is not the great object in view. '*We do not attach any special importance to this last matter*,' says this great organ of the official community, 'although the wisdom of demanding an indemnity is beyond dispute.' Why importance should not be attached to the realisation of the indemnity, if it was such a wise stipulation in the Treaty which is to bring about 'friendly relations' between India and Tibet, may well be matter for query. The *Pioneer* is ready with the answer—an answer which was given in these columns as soon as the terms of the Treaty were announced. 'Even if the indemnity is not forthcoming within the stipulated period, the stability of the Treaty will in no wise be affected, *and the only result will be the prolonged garrisoning of Chumbi*.' The italics in the above quotations are ours, the gist of which in plain English is that the only 'importance' of the proposed indemnity consists in the facilities it will offer for the 'prolonged garrisoning of Chumbi.' Herein lies what the *Pioneer* regards as the 'wisdom' of demanding the indemnity. Of course, it is sought to be explained that the indemnity was meant as a punishment for the armed resistance offered to the Mission—a sort of 'cumulative fine upon the Lamas from the day on which they assumed the offensive by the attack on Gyantse.' Was it not the *defensive* rather than the *offensive* that the Tibetans assumed against an armed force entering their country without right or invitation? Does not the *Pioneer* itself admit in a paragraph which we quote elsewhere ('Topics') that the Tibetans are a sturdy and courageous people having in them good materials for making soldiers; and is it sane to

expect that such a people would sit quiet when they saw a body of armed foreigners making forceful entry into their country for an object they could not understand, still less appreciate? If 'armed resistance' was offered by the Tibetans, it was clearly provoked by the so-called peaceful Mission itself. If the Tibetans had failed to show the 'fine courage' and 'dogged power of resistance' which the *Pioneer* admires, but for which they are going to be fined by the British Government, would not they have been despised by the same *Pioneer* and British Government as poltroons and cowards? Truly it reminds one of the story of the lion and the lamb—the excuse can never be wanting when one wishes to devour a weaker fellow-being."

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Russo-Japanese War and India.

5. The *Satya Dharma Parchárak* (Jullundur), of the 23rd September 1904, says that however the Russo-Japanese War may end, the result can produce no change in the present condition of India. It is of course probable that in the event of Russia going under, no new taxes will be levied for fifty years to come. This country is not, however, destined to learn from the war the lessons the independent nations of the world are learning. Nevertheless, the existing reforming societies in India may learn something from the momentous struggle. The intense enthusiasm and the spirit of self-sacrifice on the altar of patriotism the Japanese are showing should serve as an example to them. A Samaj or Sabha the members of which are found wanting in every ordeal cannot be expected to attain its objects or make progress worthy the name. India stands in need, not of talkers, but of workers.

The publication of Seditious Articles by the *Kal* of Poona.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd October 1904, remarks that the semi-official *Times of India* has accused an obscure Mahratti print, the *Kal*, of disseminating sedition. It has published translations of certain articles which have recently appeared in the latter paper, and says that "the continued silence of the authorities is liable to be very unfortunately misconstrued." Apparently the Anglo-Indian daily of Bombay means to say that by refraining from instituting a prosecution against the *Kal*, Government will be encouraging a belief in its weakness among the people. No sane person, however, can admit the correctness of this logic. The British Government is so firmly established in India and loyalty to it is so universal in the country that the writings of an obscure paper like the *Kal* cannot affect it in the least. Indeed, such writings are never meant to create feelings of disaffection towards Government: they are rather the outcome of journalistic inexperience and a misapprehension of the term "liberty of the press." No man with a grain of sense could believe that all the newspapers published in a province could work the least injury to Government. Instead, therefore, of resorting to law over trivialities and thereby affording proof of its being of an alarmist and inflammable disposition, Government should, as befits its exalted position, drop the matter, merely administering a warning to the Editor and Proprietor of the *Kal*.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

Afghanistan and Russia.

7. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 30th September 1904, remarks that the Russo-Japanese War has postponed the long-apprehended invasion of India for years to come. The Government of India should take advantage of the

respite to complete its preparations to meet the coming danger. The first thing it should do is to wake the Amir to the peril in which he stands, and impress on him what he should do to retain his independence. The Russian line of advance runs through Kabul and Kandahar, as is clear enough from General Kuropatkin's plan for an invasion of this country. It is therefore necessary that the Amir should not only increase the strength of his army, but should have it trained and armed with modern weapons of war. He should also strongly fortify Herat, and construct railway and telegraph lines between important places in his Kingdom. Government, which has already given sufficient proof of its sincere friendship for the ruler of Kabul, should help the present Amir in making the necessary improvements.

III.—Native States.

The new Revenue Member of the Kashmir State Council.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th and the *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 28th September 1904, comment unfavourably on the appointment of a Hindu as Revenue Member of Kashmir State Council.

Hyderabad Affairs.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st October 1904, says that the Native Press is unanimous in condemning the new policy of the Nizam's Government in filling all responsible posts under it with Europeans. The change has not only contracted the field for the employment of Native talent, but is calculated to lower the prestige of the State. Indeed, since the retirement of Mohsan-ul-Mulk, Viqar-ul-Mulk and Sarwar Jang, Hyderabad has been brought very low. Europeans are now allowed to own landed property in the State, the number of European firms is steadily increasing, the strength of the State forces is being reduced, and objection was recently taken to the Nizam's heir-apparent being addressed as "Prince." And the last, though by no means the least, regrettable event is the permanent separation of the Berars from Hyderabad. As to the financial condition of the State, although very highly-paid Europeans have been engaged to improve it, the results so far obtained are anything but satisfactory. The treasury is in a worse condition now than it ever was before. The increase of the European element in the public service of Hyderabad has made it difficult even for capable Natives to obtain employment in the State.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Lady Curzon's illness.

10. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 28th September 1904, says that the news of Lady Curzon's serious illness has come like a bolt from the blue and telegrams of enquiry are pouring in on her husband from all parts of the world. All parties are agreed that Lord Curzon is the best person to carry through the reforms initiated by him in India, and consider it unfortunate for both Government and the country that his wife should have been taken ill on the eve of his return to India. The Editor is sincerely grieved at the illness of Lady Curzon and prays for her speedy recovery.

11. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 1st October 1904, publishes a cartoon in which India is shown sympathising with Lord Curzon at the illness of his wife and assuring him that her children pray for Lady Curzon's speedy recovery.

The same.

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 26th September 1904, says that the selection of Sir James Mackay for the newly-created membership of the Viceroy's Council will only lead to the enriching of English merchants by the exploitation of the resources of this country. That gentleman is an Anglo-Indian trader, who rendered Government special help in recasting its currency law in 1893. He has never rendered any service to the country or evinced the least sympathy for the people,—and perhaps it is to this that he owes his present appointment. Certain semi-official newspapers are giving out that Sir James is not likely to accept the post offered to him, the object in view being to distract public attention from the question. The *Vakil* cannot, however, believe that he will prefer his present precarious income to an appointment carrying a salary of Rs. 6,666 a month.

The new Member of the Viceroy's Council.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB;

Received up to 15th October 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—Foreign.

The Treaty with Tibet.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th October 1904, remarks that it is becoming more and more evident that the expedition to Tibet has been a huge failure. It now turns out that the treaty said to have been concluded with the Tibetans has neither been signed by the Chinese Amban nor have its terms been finally accepted by the Pekin authorities. Moreover they have not yet been approved of even by the Viceroy. It is, therefore, difficult to see what the expedition has achieved and for what services Colonel Younghusband has been praised by the King-Emperor.

British Indians in the Transvaal.

2. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 7th October 1904, publishes a *resumé* of the correspondence which has recently passed between Lord Milner and Mr. Lyttelton on the subject of British Indians in the Transvaal. The Editor expresses agreement with the views of Sir M. M. Bhownaggree, and praises the Colonial Secretary for his condemnation of the treatment Lord Milner proposed to accord to Indian immigrants in the Transvaal.

(b)—Home.

The Seditious Articles in the *Kal* of Poona.

3. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st October 1904, remarks that there can be no gainsaying the fact that the Government of India is more solicitous of the welfare of the Natives of India than any other Government is for that of its conquered subjects. It is, however, difficult to satisfy the disloyal: these ungrateful people will always strike the hand that feeds them. A Mahratti newspaper, the *Kal*, has recently published a series of

articles calculated to excite feelings of disaffection towards Government. It is such prints, adds the Editor, which have led to the Native Press being deprived of its liberty; and they are, therefore, the worst enemies of the people and the country. He then quotes extracts from the articles referred to.

The same.

4. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 6th October 1904, remarks that on the heel of the conviction of the Editor of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* for seditious writing comes the news that another journalist is about to be prosecuted on the same charge. The paper now recommended for prosecution by its Anglo-India contemporaries is the *Kal*, a Mahratti weekly published at Poona. A perusal of the articles objected to, however, will show that they are no better than the ravings of a madman. After quoting an extract, in which British rule in India is denounced in unmeasured terms, the Editor observes that writings of this description cannot benefit the country in any way, and that it would be far better for India if she had no foolish friends like the Editor of the *Kal*. The most regrettable thing in this connection, he adds, is the conduct of the Anglo-Indian Press in urging the authorities to prosecute. Government is, however, fully aware that effusions of the kind referred to cannot injure it in the least, and should, therefore, treat them with indifference. As for the Vernacular newspapers, they should remember that writings like these are calculated to cast doubts upon their loyalty.

The poverty of India.

5. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 1st October 1904, publishes a translation of the resolution recently adopted by the International Congress of Socialists on the subject of Indian poverty, and remarks that the Congress is assuredly a sincere well-wisher of the people of India. It has told them what alarming proportions their poverty has come to assume: indeed, the fact that their destitution has moved the hearts even of those who have no concern with them proves beyond doubt that they have reached its lowest depths. The resolution, says the *Vakil*, presents a faithful picture of the state of affairs in this country.

The National Congress.

6. The *Sat Dharm Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 7th October 1904, remarks that a review of the work done by the National Congress during the last 19 years will convince any impartial person that the movement is merely "a paper horse which is trotted out annually for eight days of Christmas." By confining the Congress to legal practitioners and a few others who have received an English education, its leaders have converted it into a lifeless organisation.

Muhammadans and Political Agitation.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd October 1904, publishes an appeal to the Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk from the pen of one Jamal Ahmad, Editor of the *Hamdard*, who remarks that the time is not distant when Muhammadans will gladly join the Congress movement and raise their voices from the platform from which are now made speeches hostile to them. There are several reasons for this, of which two are most potent. In the first place, Government honours Congressmen. The other reason is that the idea is taking deep root in the minds of Indian Musalmans that since the death of the late

Sir Syad Ahmad Khan their political condition has become considerably worse. They have, therefore, been casting about for means to remedy this state of affairs and, having been unsuccessful in all other directions, some of them have joined the National Congress and are treated as honoured guests, though the manners of their hosts are certain to frighten them away in a very short time. The writer then calls upon the Nawab to prevent his co-religionist from casting in their lot with the Congress. He is of opinion that the only way to bring about the desired result is to establish a separate political association for them, the politic silence enjoined upon them by the deceased Sir Syad Ahmad being of no use to them in safeguarding their political rights. The matter, he adds, can brook no delay, and a Committee should forthwith be appointed to consider the question.

Commenting on the above the Editor observes that the National Congress having come into bad odour in both India and England, it will be injurious to the interests of his co-religionists to identify themselves with the movement. As, however, it will be equally a mistake on their part not to take part in the race for progress and as no people can divorce themselves from politics, which must co-exist with Society, Indian Muhammadans had better adopt the suggestions made by the Nawab Vikar-ul-Umra and make Lucknow the centre of their political activity.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Border.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 7th October 1904, says it is an open secret that for some time past the relations between the Amir and Government have not been as friendly as they were during the time of Abdur Rahman. Apparently the main cause of this is that Habibulla Khan is too much engrossed in keeping his turbulent and ignorant subjects in order to find time for anything else. Certain Anglo-Indian newspapers, however, have misunderstood the situation and represent Habibulla Khan's ordinary acts in an unfavourable light. Not long ago they gave out that some Afridis were collecting on the Frontier with evil intent and that the Amir had despatched the desciples of the Hadda Mulla to distant Afghan districts with the object of preaching a *jehad*. The Editor for one cannot believe that a ruler of His Highness' foresight will depart from his father's policy even by a hair's breadth. He adds that if the latter piece of news is correct the fact that the *jehad* is to be preached only in the said districts of Afghanistan should leave no room for doubt that the movement is the result of the recent Russian Military activity in Turkistan. In conclusion, he remarks that Habibulla Khan's visit to the Viceroy next spring will be certain to remove all misunderstanding between His Highness and the Government of India.

Government and the Amir.

9. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd October 1904, remarks that the Russian Government in Central Asia is more sensible than the Government of India and treats fugitives from Afghanistan in the right way. It takes no notice of them, let alone treating them hospitably and granting them allowances as is done by the Government of India. The Editor then expresses satisfaction at the recall by Habibulla Khan of a number of Afghan refugees from India,

Government and the Refugees from Afghanistan.

and remarks that this has not only lightened Government's anxiety on the score of its political pensioners, but has resulted in a pecuniary saving. He adds that in future it should exercise great care in extending its hospitality to these fugitives.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Lady Curzon's illness.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 3rd October 1904, remarks that although it has never relished the idea of Lord Curzon's return to India, it is extremely grieved at the cause of the postponement of his return. Whatever difference of opinion may exist in India as to His Lordship's administrative capacity, all classes are agreed in admiring his wife. She was always ready to render help to her Indian sisters, and did her utmost to improve their condition. The Editor prays for her speedy recovery.

The same.

11. The *Reveiw* (Lahore), of the 1st October 1904, expresses sorrow at Lady Curzon's illness and says that the event has caused great grief among the people, who were very happy at the prospect of her husband's return to India. It is the Editor's earnest prayer that Her Ladyship may recover speedily, and that Lord Curzon may return to this country at an early date.

The same.

12. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st October 1904, says that the news of Lady Curzon's illness has cast a gloom over the whole country, and that all classes of the people pray for her speedy recovery.

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SELECTIONS

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NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 22nd October 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

Government and Tibet.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th October 1904, remarks that the acknowledgment by Government of China's suzerainty over Tibet should leave no room for doubt that it does not wish to annex the country. As regards the occupation of the Chumbi Valley, it will be temporary, and its sole object is to ensure the payment of the indemnity agreed upon. It should not, therefore, be taken to signify that Government intends annexing Tibet, although it would be perfectly justified in doing so. The *Vakil* has no doubt that by and by the Tibetans will come to realise that a connection with the Government of India is not incompatible with their independence.

Can Russia successfully invade India.

2. The *Observer* (Lahore), of the 19th October 1904, writes :—

"A few months ago Mr. Balfour said that the Russian scare which dominated the minds of Englishmen in the 19th century was scandalous, but that Government had now succeeded in constructing railways, which would facilitate the transport of supplies to the border of India, and that we should take further precautions against a Russian invasion. It will be remembered that about the same time a lecture on Weather and Warfare delivered at Simla showed conclusively that it was almost impossible for that Power to invade India, as the climatic and transport difficulties would be well-nigh insuperable. A military correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* takes up the question again and exposes the absurdity of the notion that Russia can invade this country. He discusses at some length the different conditions under which she can attack India. She may do so alone, in collusion with the Amir or with the aid of a general Muhammadan Jehad. As to the second condition, the probability is very doubtful, because the Amir is subsidised by the Indian Government and also because Kabul is only 100 miles from the British frontier and at least 400 miles from the Russian. If there were any sign of the Amir contracting an alliance with the Government of the Tsar, the highly efficient and well-organised army in India would easily occupy Kabul and Kandahar, so that long before Russian aid could arrive, the Afghans would be defending

their capital and country from the advance of Indian troops and thus any aid that Afghanistan might lend to the Russians would be paralysed before they received it. Again, the Afghans are not a particularly obtuse nation. They have seen the Russians advancing and absorbing one petty State after another in Turkistan and Central Asia. They have seen British advance into the Punjab and up to their frontier, and halt there. They know full well that British policy is to halt where they are and to maintain a strong and united Afghanistan, whereas if the Russians once occupied Afghanistan they would absorb it, as they have done in the case of other States in Central Asia.

"If the British policy of not occupying Afghanistan be adhered to, there can be no fear, we think, of any alliance between the Russian Government and the Amir. But there seems to be an undue magnifying of one side of the picture in the writer's remarks with regard to an invasion of Kabul. No doubt the natural difficulties to be encountered in the advance on Kabul have been removed to a large extent, but it must be borne in mind that the Afghan army is far better equipped and disciplined than it was in 1879. As for the possibility of a Muhammadan Jehad against the English, it is absolutely out of the question. And if a writer living and writing in the 20th century can seriously talk of such an exigency, all that we can do is to doubt whether he knows anything about the subject that he takes up for discussion, and ask whether it is worth one's while to pay much attention to the words of a person who is so hopelessly ignorant of the situation in this respect. However, the picture drawn of Muscovite intolerance by him is significant. We are informed that Muhammadan soldiers in the Siberian Army have to sing the Christian evening hymn and observe the rites of the Greek Church as if they were Christians,—a fact which must be well known to all Muhammadans who have dealings with the Russians. In 1900 during the Boxer rising many hundreds, even thousands of Muhammadans, Punjabis and Pathans, went to China. They saw the Russian soldiers there. They made friends with their co-religionists in the Russian ranks and heard their grievances; they saw there dirty uniforms, their badly made equipment, heard of the scanty food and still scantier pay, the hard life and terrible conditions of service, the hard—even brutal—punishments; and they formed their own opinions. They saw the soldiers of the Great Power of the North badly clothed, badly fed, badly paid, with shoddy equipment and scratch transport; and they compared them with their own well-clothed, well-fed, well-paid, and voluntarily-enlisted selves. These details could not but make a deep impression on their minds.

"As to the Russian invasion alone, the moment the Tsar's soldiers cross the Afghan frontier it is a foregone conclusion that the tribes will attack them."

* * * * * * *

General Kuropatkin's plan for a Russian Invasion of India.

3. A correspondent writing to the *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 10th October 1904, remarks that General Kuropatkin's plan for a Russian invasion of India may look well on paper, but it is next to impossible to carry it out. Russia, who can achieve nothing against a small power like Japan, cannot be expected to hold her own in a struggle with an adversary of the calibre of Great Britain. Again, a country in which discontent and sedition stalk about openly and which is honey combed by internecine quarrels has no chance of wresting India from its present masters. The Afghans, moreover, who prize their independence most highly, would rather die to a man than allow Russian forces a footing in their country. Equally wrong is General Kuropatkin's calculation regarding a rising in this country in favour of its Russian invaders. The peace the people enjoy under British rule never fell to their lot under any other Government, and they are, therefore, ever ready to lay down their lives in the service of the British Government.

As, however, there can be no doubt that Russia can make trouble in Afghanistan, the threshold of India, the writer is of opinion that Government should occupy Kabul and Kandahar and station British garrisons in both cities. In case this should be impracticable, he would suggest an increase in the subsidy paid to the Amir, who should in that event be held responsible for the safety of India from Russia.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Russo-Japanese War and India.

4. The *Sat Dharm Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 14th October 1904, states that the successes gained by Japan in the war in Manchuria have induced all the political and social associations in India to think of changing their methods of work. The National Congress has begun to dream of a new Asia, and its leaders are prejudicing Government against the people by carrying on useless controversies in newspapers. Even religious societies have forgotten their missions, and seem inclined to spend their energies in building castles in the air. None of the above bodies, however, appear to bear in mind that there can be no comparison between two peoples living in totally different circumstances. Japan has always been ruled by one and the same dynasty, while countless reigning families have held sway in this country. Japan has never been conquered by a foreigner, whereas India has been at the mercy of every one and has been kicked about like a foot-ball for the last 1,200 years. Again, unlike the Mikado's land, which has always been independent, it has been in a state of servitude for ages past; while its residents thirst for the blood of one another, affording a strange contrast to the Japanese, who look upon themselves as brothers. The Editor then goes on to say that the natives of India should first purge themselves of those weaknesses which enable others to make slaves of them. So far, he adds, their very bodies are frail, let alone their intellect, a complete development of which is essential for the accomplishment of great ends.

The Seditious Articles in the *Kal* of Poona.

5. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 7th October 1904, says that of late journalism has become a very risky profession in this country. An Editor must now conduct himself with extreme caution, the slightest slip on his part being calculated to lead to serious consequences. After referring to the prosecution of the *Ahluwalia Gazette* as an instance in point, the Editor goes on to say that another seditious case is likely to be instituted against the *Kal* of Poona. As, however, the publication of the alleged reprehensible articles is in all probability due to the ignorance or inexperience of the Editor, Government should content itself merely with giving him a warning through the head of the district.

The same.

6. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 8th (received on the 20th) October 1904, writing on the same subject, remarks that no Native will listen to the advice of the *Kal* to kill Lord Curzon. If His Lordship has deprived the Native press of its liberty, to make a cowardly attack on him is not the way to get back that liberty. The Editor then goes on to say that if the *Times of India* and the *Pioneer* had their way they would suppress the Native press immediately, although the latter are more sincere well-wishers of Government than Anglo-Indian newpapers. He further remarks that there

is no likelihood of Lord Curzon returning to India, and that even if His Lordship does come out again he may be depended upon to pass no more laws calculated to wound the feelings of the people.

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

Military activity in Afghanistan.

7. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 1st (received on the 20th) October 1904, remarks that the recent military activity in Afghanistan is said to have for its object the checkmating of Russia, who has long had sinister designs on India and can invade it through the Amir's territories alone. This is, however, only a blind, for the war in the Far East having thoroughly exposed the weakness of Russia she is not likely to embroil herself in fresh troubles on the north-west frontier of India.

III.—NATIVE STATES.

The rumoured Annexation of Chail in the Patiala State.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 13th October 1904, reproduces a paragraph from the *Rahbar* of Muradabad denouncing the Punjab Government for its rumoured intention to acquire Chail for its summer head-quarters. To the best of the Editor's information the rumour is wholly unfounded, and he deprecates the conduct of the *Rahbar* in gratuitously accusing the said Government of bad faith.

Alwar affairs.

9. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th October 1904, remarks that it has complained more than once that the corrupt officials in Alwar have been sucking the life-blood of the people. It, however, regrets to have to record that neither the State Council nor the Maharaja has as yet taken any notice of the doings of these dirt-eating (*gû khânewâle*) officials. It then alleges that in the course of the trial of a case recently instituted in the Court of the Assistant Civil Judge, Alwar, it turned out that an official in a local Court had received a bribe of Rs. 12 from the defendant, but that the culprit has not been interfered with in any way.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The proposed Game Law for India.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 13th October 1904, remarks that it is mostly Europeans who destroy game in India, and that consequently the rigours of the proposed game law should be reserved for them alone. Besides, Anglo-Indian *shikaris* and those European travellers who come out to this country only in quest of game can afford to spend anything in the gratification of their wishes. On the other hand, Natives are too poor to be able to bear the least burden in this connection, while the rigorous character of the law in question is calculated to kill what enthusiasm for sport is left in some of them. It is, therefore, to be regretted that the proposed law should have made no distinction between foreigners and the children of the soil. Tourists will no doubt have to pay a high fee for a shooting license, but Natives and even the professional *shikaris* among them, have not been exempted from the payment of a fee. Nor is this all. It is under contemplation to make certain concessions in favour of British and Gurkha soldiers, although

these members of the Indian Army not only destroy game, but not infrequently bring about the destruction of human life. Again, the proposed law will have the effect of making subordinate Forest and Police officials practise still greater oppression on villagers, particularly on *samindars*. The law in question should not, therefore, be passed in a hurry, care being taken that it should not become a source of trouble to those poor residents of villages, forests, &c., to whom *shikar* is the means of earning a livelihood and who cannot easily have recourse to the law courts.

The same.

11. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 12th October 1904, writing on the same subject, remarks that the proposed law will furnish petty Forest officials with excuses to extort bribes from the people.

VII.—General Administration.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Lady Curzon's illness.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 13th October 1904, expresses satisfaction at the improvement in Lady Curzon's health, and says that it is the earnest prayer of the natives of India that she may never again know illness.

The same.

13. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd October 1904, remarks that, although the prospect of Lord Curzon's return to India is far from pleasing to the people, the news of his wife's illness has filled the whole country with grief. The reason for this is that, while Lady Curzon is a kind-hearted and amiable lady who has done much for her Indian sisters, her husband says one thing and does another. After deprecating the policy followed by Lord Curzon in India, the *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* expresses the hope that His Lordship's services will be utilised in some other part of the Empire.

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I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Treaty with Tibet.

1. In an article headed "The Beginning, not the end of the Trouble," the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 25th October 1904, writes as follows :—

"As was fully anticipated by the critics of Lord Curzon's Tibetan policy, the so-called Treaty of Lhassa is the beginning not the end of our trouble on the North-East frontier. If Lord Lytton's name will be handed down to posterity as the author of the disastrous policy on the North-West which has been responsible for the waste of the colossal sum of 75 crores of Indian money, the glory is reserved to Lord Curzon of being the author of the still more disastrous policy on the North-East which may be expected to lead to indefinite complications with mighty Foreign Powers and to a vast expenditure of India's treasure and blood. The impregnable frontier which God has provided for India in the shape of the Himalayas has been unwisely pierced through, and a massacring mission of false pretences has been despatched to an innocent neighbour's territory at poor India's expense, and a Treaty has been patched up, 'which is admirably designed to place Tibet at the mercy of the 'forwad' School in India, and give them an opportunity for interference whenever they may be so disposed."

The paper then proceeds to discuss the Articles of the Treaty, which it condemns as indicating a contemplated annexation of Tibet, "in the orthodox fashion at the expense of the wretched Indian tax-payer."

Japan and Asia.

2. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 26th September 1904, reprints from the *Arya Gazette* an article headed "The Sun has risen in the East," and contributed to the latter paper by Lala Lajpat Rai. The writer says that it was Asia which taught Europe, not only religion but the rudiments of that civilisation which has enabled Europeans to obtain the sovereignty of the world. The vicissitudes of fortune have, however, laid Asia low, so much so that Europe has reduced Asiatics to the position of hewers of wood and drawers of water. Their only hope now centres in Japan,

to which the light, which went out to Europe from the Asiatic Continent in days of yore, has come back. "God grant that the light may not prove illusory, and that it may impart new life to the people of Asia!"

II.—AFGHANISTAN AND TRANS-FRONTIER.

The Amir and the Government of India.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st October 1904, remarks that for some time past Anglo-Indian newspapers have been paying marked attention to the doings of the Kabul Darbar, while their leader, the *Pioneer*, publishes almost daily incredible stories about the Amir which must be a source of sincere regret to the well-wishers of both Afghanistan and the Government of India. It is difficult to say why Habibulla Khan should have invited certain tribal *jirgas* to Kabul and entertained them, thereby exciting the suspicion of the Anglo-Indian Press and straining his relations with Government. There can, however, be no doubt that a ruler of his ability and sagacity will not create difficulties on the frontier by distributing arms and ammunition to the Afridis, as has been alleged by the *Pioneer*. All that is probable is that His Highness may have presented breech-loading rifles and cartridges to the leading *maliks* with the aforesaid *jirgas* with the object of winning their good will. At all events, Afghanistan affairs appear to be in a critical state, and it is to be hoped the crisis will be tided over.

The same.

4. The same paper of the 24th October 1904, says that the announcement that the Amir has consented to receive a British official at Kabul and that he wishes to send his eldest son to meet Lord Curzon and is desirous of renewing the agreements entered into between his father and the Government of India, will help to remove many an unpleasant misunderstanding. His Highness' attitude of indifference towards the Government of India, which was apparently due to pressure of work, had given rise to diverse suspicions in political circles in India, while a feeling of uneasiness has been created among the thinking and peaceful section of the population. The above announcement is, therefore, calculated to throw oil on the troubled waters and blunt the points of the pens of Anglo-Indian Journalists.

VII.—GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Collisions between Europeans and Natives.

5. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 27th October 1904, writes as follows:—

"The case in which Lieutenants Thew and Gout entered a human locality near Poona to enjoy shooting, and shot an Indian lad and a woman sitting peacefully within the limits of their village, has ended, in accordance with the traditions of the criminal administration of British India, in the rigorous imprisonment for a long term of four Indian villagers and the placing on trial of the village Patel to whom the heroic sportsmen had been rightly made over by the villagers. Mr. Shepherd, Collector and District Magistrate of Poona, in giving his decision, says that after the boy and the woman had been shot by 'pure accident'—it was also perhaps 'pure accident' which brought them to a human locality for shooting—'a large crowd came up and in *various ways*'—showing undoubtedly the savage character of natives of India—'assaulted and struck the officers who'—poor lambs!—"made no opposition.' Even 'this did not satisfy the crowd'—which is further evidence of the savage character of natives—'and they dragged the officers'—by the legs?—'to the Chowdhri of the

village.' The accused were 'identified by an orderly of the officers as forming part of a large crowd unlawfully assembled.' Would it not have been more consistent with the dictates of commonsense to leave the work of identification to the Magistrate himself than to the orderly of the complainants? A remarkable fact which has been brought to light in this connection is that a 'native' orderly of European officers is free from the 'native habit of giving false evidence,' particularly when the party against whom he is to give evidence has been charged with assaulting his European masters. However, on the evidence of this 'orderly of the officers' the Magistrate found the four accused guilty of wrongful restraint and causing simple hurt, and sentenced them each to rigorous imprisonment for seven months. The charge of 'simple hurt' in this case is as hard to reconcile with the alleged assaulting and striking the officers 'in various ways,' as the charge of simple hurt framed respectively against the celebrated Bain and the latest spleen-rupturer at Calcutta was with the death of the respective victims. If there was still any doubt in any quarter as to the cause of the proverbial elasticity of the law in India in the case of the Europeans, the District Magistrate of Poona has successfully removed it in his judgment in the present case by characterising an attempt on the part of a native of India to pay Europeans in their own coin as 'a matter requiring *the most serious notice.*' For Europeans to penetrate into human localities to enjoy shooting and make targets of women and children is of course a matter requiring no notice at all."

Victor Dalip Singh's Claims against the Government of India.

6. The following appears in the same paper of the 29th October 1904:—

"One of the greatest tragedies ever enacted on the world's stage was witnessed when, sick and penniless, hunted and harassed by his creditors, Ranjit Singh's grandson had to stand in the dock to announce that he was a bankrupt! We wonder on whose side the weight of humiliation was the heavier, the unhappy Prince of the Punjab or the mighty British Raj! The Trustees in bankruptcy of Prince Victor Albert Dalip Singh have now brought an action against the Secretary of State for India in the King's Bench. The bulk of the claim refers to the difference between the actual pension allowed to the late Maharajah Dalip Singh by the Indian Government down to his death, and to his son, Prince Victor, afterwards, and the pension of thirty thousand pounds covenanted to be paid by the East India Company in 1849 in return for the Maharaja's renunciation 'for himself, his heirs and his successors, all right, title and claim to the sovereignty of the Punjab.' No words can sufficiently condemn the conduct of the India Office in having allowed the matter to be made the subject of legal proceedings, and the feelings of profound regret to which it has given rise in India are by no means confined to the Punjab. The following remarks of an esteemed Calcutta contemporary accurately represent the universal sentiment in this country:—

"'It does not look well for the great British Government to leave the poor Prince to his fate, and not stir a finger in order to lend him the help he so badly needs. Having taken the Punjab, the British Government is morally bound to help Ranjit Singh's descendants out of their difficulties. If they lend a helping hand to Prince Victor at this juncture, they will greatly conciliate the Sikh community of the Punjab whose loyalty they so much value'.

"In view of the innumberable doles of benevolence the revenues of India have been providing for 'poor Whites' of all descriptions, both indigenous and imported, whose number is alarmingly on the increase, it is hard to justify the attitude of studied indifference and apathy maintained towards the descendants of Ranjit Singh in their penniless wanderings over the face of the earth. It is a capital 'return' for the late Maharaja Dalip Singh's renunciation for 'himself, his heirs and his descendants, all right, title and claim to the sovereignty of the Punjab.'"

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Received up to 5th November 1904.

I.—Politics.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The apprehended Russian Invasion of India.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd November 1904, says that in spite of the weakness of Russia having been thoroughly exposed in the Far East, the bugbear of a Russian invasion of India has not ceased to cause uneasiness in certain quarters. For instance, the Defence Committee has suggested that in case of necessity Lord Kitchener should, with the consent of the Amir, occupy the plains of Kabul and Kandahar, and station 150,000 troops there to resist the Russian advance. The suggestion, adds the Editor, is not only wholly premature, but there is no knowing how its announcement at a time when a Mission is about to start for Kabul may affect Habibulla Khan. Besides, His Highness is already doing his utmost to improve his army as well as the defence of his frontiers. He may listen to Government's *advice* in the matter, but the proposal to station British forces in Kabul and Kandahar is not likely to be welcomed by him or by his turbulent and suspicious subjects.

Russia's Dreams of Conquest.

2. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 25th October 1904, says that if to wish for a thing were to obtain it, Russia would have taken India long ago. As it is, being unable either to break through Afghanistan or measure her strength with the British, she has no chance of realising her desires. She has also been casting covetous eyes on Turkey for years past, but there is no prospect of her succeeding even in that quarter, the Turks being fully equal to holding their own. The Editor then goes on to say that the recent Japanese successes in the Far East have thoroughly exposed the weakness of the Czar's army; and as long as his soldiery are in their present condition, Russia cannot succeed in carrying through a single item of her ambitious programme of conquest.

3. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 24th October 1904, enquires whether the King-Emperor evinces as much interest in the welfare of his Indian subjects as he does in that of the people of Great Britain. The question, it adds, must be answered in the negative. The natives of India do not occupy as large a place in His Majesty's heart as his subjects even in Canada, Australia or Africa.

The King-Emperor and his Indian Subjects.

(b)—Home.

4 The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st October 1904, remarks that the political greatness and commercial supremacy of Great Britian as well as the prosperity of her Colonies depend solely on her possession of India. It is, therefore, to be regretted that the British public should take no interest in Indian affairs and should set little or no store by their greatest Dependency. The *Vakil* is, however, very glad to see that of late the members of the House of Commons have begun to evince some interest in India, which is ascribable chiefly to the publication of two books by that devoted servant and well-wisher of his country, Mr. R. C. Dutt. It then goes on to say that the fact of Hindustan being steeped in abject poverty, in spite of its being the most fertile country in the world, suggests the inference that its administration is conducted on wrong lines. In short, it observes, the poverty of India is due to British manufacturers having used their political influence to kill Indian industries, and to the vigorous assessment of the land revenue. After asking Englishmen to interest themselves in the matter, bearing in mind that there is no trusting hungry subjects, the *Vakil* remarks that the articles on Indian affairs recently published in the London *Times* are calculated only to mislead the British Public.

India and the British Public.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

5 The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 27th October 1904, remarks that the conclusion of the 1893 Agreement with Afghanistan was followed by certain unpleasant occurences, the worst of which was the supply of Kabul-made arms to the Afridis on the occasion of the Tirah Campaign. Had not the late Amir Abdur Rahman Khan died in 1901, the Government of India would have long since sent a mission to Kabul to smooth matters. As it is, the relations between it and Afghanistan have become still more strained. There can, however, be no doubt that Habibulla Khan's decision to invite a British officer to Kabul and send his eldest son to meet Lord Curzon will have the effect of removing all unpleasantness between him and the Government of India. The *Paisa Akhbar* expresses the hope that Government's representative will confine their efforts to renewing the agreements concluded with Abdur Rahman Khan, and that in the solution of difficulties which have arisen since 1893 the interests, not only of Afghanistan but of India, will be kept in view. It further suggests that some understanding regarding the demarcation of the Mohmand and Zaka Khel boundaries should also be arrived at.

The Kabul Mission.

6. The *Civil and Military News* (Ludhiana), of the 24th October 1904, writing on the same subject characterises the despatch of the Mission as a proper and timely move and feels confident that the results will be all that can be desired.

The same.

7. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 2nd November 1904, remarks that although the present is not a favourable time of year for a British Mission to proceed to Kabul, the questions at issue are of such vital importance that the matter can brook no delay.

The same.

III.—Native States.

8. A correspondent writing to the *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 29th October 1904, says that some time back the *Paisa Akbar* published a communication accusing Government of bad faith towards Native States (*vide* paragraph 4 of Selections No. 29). The accusation is wholly unfounded, and Government never disregards its treaty obligations to the States, although the gross maladministration prevalent in these States would justify it in doing so. As a matter of fact, however, it has been observing those obligations in a scrupulous manner, and does not interfere in the affairs of the Feudatory States except for their good. As to the complaint regarding depriving a Native Chief of his ruling powers occasionally, it should be borne in mind that Government being, as the Paramount Power, responsible for the welfare of the people of both British territory and Native States, it cannot countenance mismanagement in any part of the country. Again, the fact that a member of the family of the deposed Prince is invariably placed on the *gaddi* constitutes another proof that the change is always made in the interests of the State subjects. The appointment of Councils also has the same object in view, while the posting of Political Officers to the Feudatory States is a practice of very long standing. The writer then goes on to say that did Native Chiefs fully realise their responsibilities Government would not interfere with them even to the small extent it has now to do from time to time. He further remarks that no sane person should object to the reduction of the strength of troops maintained by the said Chiefs, calculated as this is to result in a saving to those Princes. Government being, besides, responsible for the safety of the Feudatory States, the latter have absolutely no need to maintain armies of their own.

Government and Native States.

Commenting on the above the Editor says that the communication published in the *Paisa Akhbar* is calculated not only to create feelings of disaffection among the people, but to estranage Indian Princes from Government. The entire writing constitutes an inpeachment of Government's good faith in the case of Native States and therefore amounts to an offence under Section 124 A of the Indian Penal Code.

VI.—Legislation.

9. A correspondent writing to the *Chaudwin Sadi* (Rawalpindi), of the 1st November 1904, complains that non-agriculturists in the Punjab resort to diverse subterfuges to defeat the object of the Land Alienation Act. They are prohibited from buying land or taking it in mortgage, but they manage to get over the difficulty easily enough,—the Hindus by basing their claims on suppositious verbal agreements said to have been made before the passing of the Act, and the Muhammadans by concealing their true caste. There can be no doubt that those primarily to blame for this are the agricultural classes, but in a lesser degree the blame also attaches to Patwaris and Lambardars, who combine to prevent the true facts from reaching the ears of Revenue

A Complaint in connection with the Working of the Land Alienation Act.

Officers. The Financial Commissioner, whose attention has already been drawn to the matter, should take more effectual steps to cope with the evil.

Commenting on the above the Editor requests Government to attend to the matter at once, and rescue guileless *zamindars* from the clutches of money-lenders.

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Educational Service and Natives.

10. The *Siraj-ul-Akhbar* (Jhelum), of the 24th October 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer observes that the new Educational policy of Government has greatly marred the prospects of Natives in the Education Department. For instance, in future Europeans only will be eligible for the Head-masterships of Model Schools. The posts of District Inspector, Inspector, &c., will also be conferred on them in preference to Natives. Under the new University Act no new College will be entitled to a grant-in-aid from Government until its managers have collected a sum of not less than two lakhs of rupees. Thus, while on the one hand the doors of education are being closed against the Natives of India, on the other hand the educated among them are being ousted from the Educational service, a state of things sincerely to be deprecated. The writer concludes by remarking that his fellow-countrymen having proved themselves thoroughly competent to hold posts of responsibility not only in the Education Department, but in other branches of the Public service, the foregoing complaint should be put an end to.

(*e*)—*Agriculture, &c.*

The condition of *Zamindars*.

11. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 24th October 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer remarks that *Zamindars* have been reduced to a state of abject poverty and are fast selling their holdings. They find it extremely difficult to pay the land revenue, and have to borrow from money-lenders at exorbitant rates of interest to meet the demand. The bribes they have to pay to Patwaris and certain Court officials constitute another heavy drain on their purse. One result of the poverty in which they are steeped is that their physique has deteriorated and they can now supply very few recruits for the army. The proposed schools for agriculturists can prove of no help in remedying the evil; and the correspondent advises *Zamindars* to do their utmost to improve their lands and bring waste land under cultivation, as the only way of bettering their present wretched condition.

Commenting on the above the Editor remarks that he does not agree with those who represent agriculturists as sunk in poverty and complain of the rigorous assessment of the land revenue. He is of opinion that the prosperity the *Zamindars* have been and are enjoying under British rule was unknown to them in former times. If some of them, who are indolently inclined and neglect the work of cultivation, find it difficult to pay land revenue, the blame for this cannot fairly be laid at the door of Government.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

12. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 31st October 1904, remarks that the outcry raised by the Bengalis over the proposed partition of Bengal is perfectly justified, seeing that the contemplated division of a people bound together by ties of blood and a community of interest is like cutting up a living body. The Editor adds, that political expediency apart, the measure in question is the least reasonable one put forward by Lord Curzon.

The proposed Partition of Bengal.

13. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 3rd November 1904, says that Government shows many favours to Anglo-Indian Newspapers and supplies them with official news at the expense of the public. The concessions are, however, denied not only to the Vernacular Press, but even to those Native papers which are conducted in English, even *Government Gazettes* are not supplied gratis to those newspapers. The blame for this state of affairs, however, does not rest wholly with Government, and a large share of it must be laid at the door of the Native Press, which does nothing to raise its status. The *Paisa Akhbar* further remarks that Anglo-Indian Newspapers alone, the representatives of which are always to be found at the head-qaarters of the Government of India, will derive benefit from the Press-Rooms which are to be opened at Calcutta and Simla.

Invidious Distinction between Anglo-Indian and Native Newspapers.

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[Confidential.]

[Vol. XVII.] [No. 45.]

SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 12th November 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The North Sea outrage.

1. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th November 1904, writing about the North Sea outrage, says that, contrary to expectation, only a few ships of the Baltic fleet have been detained at Vigo. The *Morning Post* (London) finds fault with the Ministry for this, but the *Pioneer* is of opinion that the detention of the whole fleet would have been unjustifiable. Apparently the latter paper means to say that Russia being a pillar of Christendom, any irregularity on her part should be held excusable; but if a Turkish fleet, adds the Editor, behaved in the manner alleged, things would have taken quite a different turn.

Can Russia successfully invade India?

2. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st November 1904, remarks that Russia can invade this country only though Afghanistan. She must, however, first subjugate the Afghans, for they will not allow her a passage through their country. The Amir receives a subsidy from the British Government and cannot be expected to go against the latter; while, were he to do so, it would be the easiest thing for Government to occupy Kabul. In addition to this, the Afghans can distinguish between friend and foe. They know how Russia has swallowed up several Khanates in Central Asia and how she never gives up a country in which she once sets foot. On the other hand, they have seen that the British Government has always been averse to occupying any part of their country. As to Russia inciting them to wage a *jehad* against Government, that is wholly out of the question, it being impossible for a Muhammadan people to take such a step in the interests of a Christian power.

Besides, the Afghans are not unaware how she has been ill-treating her Musalman subjects; while the repeated reverses sustained by Russia in the war have annihilated her prestige in Afghanistan. In the above circumstances it may be asserted without fear of contradiction that a Russian invasion of India is an utter impossibility.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon.

3. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 9th November 1904, after announcing that Lord Curzon lands in India on the 9th December, remarks that the majority of the population are not disposed to welcome His Lordship.

Muhammadans and Political Agitation.

4. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th November 1904, publishes a communication from one Abdur Rahman of Kot Kapura, who refers to an appeal to Nawab Mohsan-ul-Mulk published in a recent issue of the *Vakil* (paragraph 7 of Selections No. 41), and refuses to believe for a moment that Muhammadans are so fickle-minded or imprudent as to join the National Congress. It is true that their rights are being ruthlessly trampled upon, but Government is not to blame for this, seeing that on true facts coming to its notice it hastens to redress grievances. The sooner, adds the writer, the Prophet's followers in India disabuse themselves of the notion that they can by change of front terrify Government into making special concessions in their favour, the better it will be for them. They must clearly understand that Government is guided by certain fixed principles, and that if it occasionally honours certain Congressmen above their deserts, it does not follow that every one connected with the movement is to be similarly treated. Again, the fact that Muhammadans as a nation are strongly opposed to political agitation, as carried on by the National Congress, makes it impossible for them to approve the propaganda. The best thing they can do in the circumstances is to revive the old scheme to found a Political Association consisting of selected Musalmans from each Province, who should lay the grievances of their community before Government in a respectful manner.

The same.

5. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 1st November 1904, writing on the same subject, says that it is only a few well-to-do Muhammadans who favour political agitation on the lines of the National Congress. They should, however, bear in mind that the majority of their co-religionists being very backward in education they are utterly unfit to meddle with politics. Those Musalmans, therefore, who would have their community throw in its lot with the Congress only betray their ignorance of the true state of affairs, as also of the real requirements of their co-religionists. The Editor then goes on to say that quite recently Nawab Mohsan-ul-Mulk, in the course of an ably written article, warned the Prophet's followers that disastrous consequences would follow their imbibing Congress principles. The Nawab was perfectly right in sounding the alarm, for otherwise it was quite possible that the false pictures of the so-called wrongs of the people drawn by the Congress might have inflamed ignorant Muhammadans against Government. Indeed, were

a few Muhammadans of light and leading to make common cause with the Congress, their example would be certain to be blindly followed by the masses. The Editor then advises both Hindus and Muhammadans to implicitly obey their rulers and stand by the latter.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Anglo-Indian Press and Afghanistan.

6. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 29th October 1904, says that Anglo-Indian newspapers, which only a few days back were accusing the Amir of bad faith towards Government, have completely veered round and are now singing his praises. For instance, the *Pioneer*, whose writings are usually calculated to strain the relations between Government and Habibulla Khan, has now taken up the cudgels on the Amir's behalf. It praises him for his decision to send his eldest son to meet Lord Curzon, although it takes to itself the credit of having induced him to take this step.

The Amir and the Muhammadans of India.

7. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 4th November 1904, remarks that the news of the approaching visit to India of the eldest son of the Amir will afford great pleasure to the Muhammadan public. The reason for this is that owing to Habibulla Khan having displayed unusual sympathy with them of late, they have come to expect from His Highness great things concerning their community and religion.

III.—Native States.

Rampur Affairs.

8. One Muhammad Sadiq, of Saharanpur, at present a resident of Bareilly, writing to the *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th November 1904, says that there has recently been published a pamphlet containing indecent attacks on Maulvi Abdul Ghafur, Wazir of the Rampur State. He knows that for some time past a clique has existed against the above official, that its head, who occupies a high position in the service of the State and is nearly related to the Maulvi, has a certain newspaper of Moradabad in his pay, and that the publication of the pamphlet in question is presumably the work of this clique. He is, however, glad that instead of prejudicing the Rampur public against the Wazir, the booklet has secured him the sympathy of all respectable persons. The correspondent alleges that the man, whose name is given on the title page, is not the real writer of the pamphlet, and calls upon the Nawab to punish the guilty party.

The same.

9. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 7th November 1904, writing on the same subject, alleges that the pamphlet is without an imprint. As to the allegations contained in it, they are not only indecent and mean, but seemingly impossible to be substantiated.

VII.—General Administration.

(*e*)—*Agriculture, &c.*

The Condition of Zamindars.

10. The *Victoria Paper* (Sialkot), of the 1st November 1904, remarks that zamindars have made marked progress in prosperity under British rule.

If some of them are still in straitened circumstances, this is due to their neglecting the cultivation of their lands, for which they alone are to blame. Government has been doing its utmost to improve the condition of the agricultural class; it has extended the means of irrigation and collects land revenue at very reasonable rates; while it allows remissions whenever there is a failure of crops. Zamindars should supplement the efforts of Government by eschewing litigation, paying greater attention to cultivation, and giving up their extravagant habits.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—17-11-04—70—J. B.

[Confidential.]

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 19th November 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The North Sea Outrage.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th November 1904, remarks that no sensible person can credit the Russian version of the North Sea Outrage, or believe the promise given by the Czar's Government to adequately punish the officers responsible. It was Admiral Rozhdestvensky himself who ordered the Hull fishing smacks to be fired upon. Russia cannot, however, be expected to bring before the International Tribunal the man in whom centre her hopes of re-establishing her prestige in Far Eastern Waters. There is great fear of the fleet committing further similar outrages during its voyage, seeing that its commander and his subordinates seem incapable of calmness and circumspection. Nevertheless, the British Government could not have gone beyond what it has done in the matter, although it is to be feared that the least further provocation on the part of Russia will precipitate war between her and Great Britain.

The same.

2. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 14th November 1904, remarks that the British Government are fully determined not to forego any one of their demands on Russia. There can be no doubt that the action taken by Mr. Balfour and Lord Lansdowne has been approved of in all quarters.

Can Russia successfully invade India?

3. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 15th November 1904, says that Russia cannot think of invading India by Sea. It is equally impossible

for her to march on this country through Afghanistan, as impossible as it is for England to march on St. Petersburg. There can, however, be no doubt that Russia has considerable influence in Persia, and this constitutes a source of danger to India. It is, therefore, incumbent on Government to increase British influence in Persia and put down Russian intrigues in that country.

Macedonian Affairs.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 12th November 1904, says that although the Sultan has agreed to the Russo-Austrian scheme of reform the Macedonians are as sullen as ever. And their conduct is not difficult of explanation. They had no real grievances to speak of, their sole object in airing their imaginary wrongs being to rouse Christendom against Turkey, and thus secure autonomy for themselves. That this is so is evident from the fact that the Greeks, who from their close relationship with the Macedonians were expected to side with the latter, have all along disapproved of and condemned their attitude towards the Sultan. It has also been made patent that but for wire-pulling by Russia there would have been no risings in Macedonia, as is abundantly clear from the Macedonians having quietly settled down after the embroilment of Russia in the Far East. The Editor then suggests that the present is a favourable time for England to renew her friendly relations with Turkey and preclude the possibility of Russian intrigues in that part of Europe.

(*b*)—*Home.*

British Policy in India.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th November 1904, observes that certain Englishmen seem to favour the policy embodied in the maxim "Divide and Rule." This line of conduct evidently commends itself even to a class of British statesmen, as would appear from Lord George Hamilton's remarks in the course of his inaugural address at the opening of the Indian Empire Exhibition that want of unity among Natives was advantageous to Government. It is to be regretted that after directing Indian affairs for a number of years His Lordship should have come to the above conclusion, and should have overlooked the British sense of justice and the loyalty of the people. It is very unfortunate for the natives of this country that their sincere devotion to the British throne should be a negligible quantity with the Ministry.

The alleged Degeneration of Hindus under British Rule.

6. The *Arya Gazette*, of the 10th November 1904, deprecates the people's dependence on foreigners for most of their necessaries of life, and remarks that their indolence is likely to end in their complete ruin. The Editor adds that although under Muhammadan rule Hindus were little better than slaves, still they had some vigour and manliness left in them. Now, however, they have fallen very low, and have not profited by the blessings of British rule in the least. They have degraded themselves to the level of beasts and have utterly lost sight of their duties to their country and community, their habits being low, mean and reprehensible in the extreme.

The National Congress and the Material Condition of India.

7. The *Curzon Gazette* (Dehli) of the 8th November 1904, controverts the view frequently expressed in Congress papers that poverty is daily on the increase in India. The wages of labourers and craftsmen are ever

increasing and the price of land has been rising steadily, while traders who start with small capital are amassing large fortunes. Even if there is a large number of persons in India who are constantly on the verge of starvation, is there not a submerged tenth even in England, the richest country in the world? It is not, therefore, the remission of taxes or a reduction of the military expenditure which can make the people rich; in order to attain that end they should give up their lazy and extravagant habits. The Editor further remarks that even if it is granted for argument's sake that Government has helped to kill indigenous industries, no sensible person will deny that it has done no more than precipitate the fate which was to overtake them sooner or later. It should besides be borne in mind that if some old industries have died out, new ones have taken their place.

Muhammadans and the National Congress.

8. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 14th November 1904, says that although it approves of the aims and objects of the National Congress and considers the existence of such a Political Association necessary for safeguarding the rights of the people, it does not wish to act in opposition to the leaders of the Muhammadan community in political matters. There are several social and economic points of difference between Hindus and Muhammadans, and even where both communities have the same object in view their methods of obtaining it are radically different. Nevertheless it is of the first importance for Muhammadans to decide once for all whether they are to work in conjunction with the Congress or stand aloof from it, especially when several men of light and leading among them are beginning to join the movement. It is their numerical inferiority and backwardness in education which have so far prevented them from throwing in their lot with the Congress. They must, however, bear in mind that the former defect is beyond their power to remedy, while so far they have, as a community, displayed no special inclination to take more kindly to education. But if they do not choose to move forward, this is no reason why other classes of the people also should remain stationary. The Editor then goes on to say that, although the Nawab Viqar-ul-Mulk has brought about the establishment of a separate Political Association for Muhammadans, it is a question whether the movement will achieve what is expected of it.

The same.

9. The *Public Magazine* (Amritsar), of the 7th November 1904, remarks that Muhammadan young men who have received an English education are beginning to realise Sir Syad Ahmad's mistake, and it has been borne in upon them that the existence of political agitation among a community is the only proof of its being a living entity. And if the Nawab Mohsin-ul-Mulk fails to establish a Political Association for them, it will be impossible to prevent them from throwing in their lot with the National Congress. This has induced the Nawab to address them in the columns of the *Aligarh Institute Gazette* with the object of dissuading them from joining hands with the Congressmen. He is, however, wholly wrong in stating that the aim of the Congress is to abuse Government and create feelings of hatred for it and the English. The sole object of that body is to acquaint Government with the requirements of the people as also with certain defects in the

administrative machinery, the end in view being to purge the administration of every possible evil and make British rule thoroughly popular in India. As to the Nawab's statement that by joining the Congress his co-religionists will only get themselves locked up in prison, it is ridiculous in the extreme and no Muhammadan supporter of the movement has so far fared thus. His reference to the capacity of Mussalmans to shed blood is also irrelevant; and it is not easy to understand why he goes out of his way to refer to this trait in their character on every possible occasion. The *Public Magazine* then deprecates his conduct in making a Hindu-Muhammadan question of the Sepoy Mutiny, and remarks that all efforts to prevent those Muhammadans who have received an English education from resorting to political agitation are certain to prove futile.

Lord Kitchener's Scheme for the Reorganization of the Indian Army.

10. The *Sat Dharm Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 11th November 1904, after referring to Russian designs on India, says that Lord Kitchener's scheme will make it possible for the Indian Army to take the field at a moment's notice. The difficulty, however, is that the change will necessitate more frequent manœuvres, which will be certain to add considerably to the military expenditure of the country. And this is a prospect which the Indian tax-payer cannot contemplate with equanimity, for it is he who must find the extra money needed. Were it possible to effect the improvement without touching his pocket he would welcome the Commander-in-Chief's proposal.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Kabul Mission.

11. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 11th November 1904, remarks that the most important work which Lord Curzon will have to take up immediately on his return to this country concerns the relations between India and Afghanistan. It is advisable that it should be definitely settled how the British Government and the Amir are to stand to each other in future. Habibulla Khan is of opinion that the agreements concluded between Afghanistan and Government in 1835 and 1893 need revision, that step having been necessitated by the changes of time. The object is, however, impossible of attainment unless the points at issue are discussed in a friendly spirit and hence the Amir's decision to send his eldest son to meet Lord Curzon and invite a British Mission to Kabul. The *Watan* then surmises that some of the questions to be dealt with by the Mission refer to the amount of subsidy henceforth to be paid to the Amir, His Highness' relations with the different frontier tribes, the importation through India of arms for the Afghan Government and the demarcation of certain boundaries.

The same.

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 11th November 1904, remarks that it remains to be seen how far the Mission will prove successful in renewing and cementing the relations which existed between the British Government and Afghanistan during the time of the late Amir Abdur Rahman Khan. Certain companions (*e.g.*, Loinab Khushdil Khan) of Sardars Yakub Khan and Muhammad Ayub Khan who have recently gone back to Kabul should prove of great help to the Mission and facilitate the accomplishment of the

work before it. The Mission should, besides, take particular care to do nothing to excite suspicion among the Afghans, who are notorious for their distrustful nature.

The same.

13. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 8th November 1904, remarks that most probably the chief object of the Mission is to settle definitely what relations are to subsist between Afghanistan and India. A similar Mission under Sir Mortimer Durand visited Kabul in the time of the late Amir Abdur Rahman, but His Highness got the better of the well-known Anglo-Indian diplomatist and had the subsidy paid to him increased by Rs. 6,00,000 a year. It remains to be seen how it will fare with Mr. Dane, seeing that Habibulla Khan also possesses no mean intellect and can boast of considerable experience of the world. At all events, it is to be hoped that the present Mission will prove a success and manage to settle everything in a satisfactory manner.

The Kabul Mission.

14. In an article headed "Courting trouble in Afghanistan" the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 19th November 1904, writes as follow:—

"We were all, it now seems beyond a doubt, a little too premature in thanking Lord Curzon for his supposed reversal of the forward frontier policy. It seems to us, in the light of events now transpiring, that it was only in the nature of a feint. Lord Curzon said in his great speech in the Guildhall that he was sent to India by Lord Salisbury to guard the frontiers of India and that he did his task. Of course there may be different interpretations of this phrase and doubtless Lord Curzon is as much entitled to his own interpretation of it as we are to ours. But it is a public matter involving the interests of India, and we have a right to expect the ruler of three hundred millions to put a commonsense interpretation upon the term and consider carefully the interests of the people in his charge before embarking on a policy the financial consequences of which are certain to be ruinous, while politically its benefits are at best doubtful and may be disastrous according to one school of political thinkers and military strategists. The forward policy is not a new thing. It was rejected by Lawrence and Northbrook, by Mayo and Ripon, by Henry Norman and Neville Chamberlain, by Donald Stewart and Sir John Adye. According to the elaborate and convincing calculations of Colonel Hanna, who relied on official sources from beginning to end, at least seventy-five crores of Indian money has been wasted on the trans-frontier wars and without any adequate return we can recall. The revival of that policy means no end of financial and political trouble to India, and we must protest against it with all the emphasis we can command. Lord Curzon has inaugerated mischief on the north-east frontier and the return for the million sterling expended on Tibet is so far nil. But in the very temporary failure of the policy that led to the expedition we seem to see a sign of the success of a forward party whose object is less to achieve present success than to sow the seeds of future mischief. Unless we are unconsciously doing serious injustice to him, Lord Curzon's object in despatching the expedition to Tibet was not merely to get a paper treaty with no guarantee for its future observance. The present so-called temporary occupation of Chumbi Valley is inevitably to lead to the occupation of more territory further northward and we make a note of the fact that the *Times of India*, the other day, unwittingly perhaps, said that Gyantse was on the north-east frontier of India. Not content with involving India in the Tibetan mess, Lord Curzon turned his attention to Persia. But we have already dealt with the Persian 'commercial' Mission at some length in a recent issue, and we need not say more. We disbelieve in the so-called purely commercial character of the Persian

Mission, and shall be surprised if there will not be important political developments of the same in the near or distant future. But in a third and nearer field that of our old and costly and embarrassing friend Afghanistan, have also been sown seeds of mischief, and we confess to being very nervous about the consequences of this Kabul Mission under the headship of Mr. Louis Dane, who as Foreign Secretary has been Lord Curzon's right-hand man during the past few years. In the usual course of things Mr. Louis Dane will rejoice in the title of Sir Louis Dane, and officials in general may be congratulating themselves on their successful coup, but what is the necessity for the despatch of this Kabul Mission now? Why go out of your way to create suspicions in the mind of Russia as well as Afghanistan, unless you have made up your mind to play a deep game which may possibly turn out to be a success, but will probably prove to be a grave political blunder?"

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III.—Native States.

The employment of Natives in Native States.

15. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 19th November 1904, writes—

"In our last issue we published a letter from Srinagar signed 'Dogra' complaining of the preponderating influence in the State service of what are known as the 'foreigners' from British India—the officers lent to the State by the British Government. This is not the first letter of the kind that has appeared in our columns, and we have seen similar communications published in the columns of some of our contemporaries—a fact which betokens the existence of a growing feeling of restiveness among native Kashmiris against what is understood to be the 'encroachment' of outsiders. This is no doubt a regrettable fact, and it is still more to be regretted if just cause has been given for the feeling referred to. The officers lent to Kashmir by the British Indian Government are generally gentlemen of high character, and it were to be presumed that in the matter of filling the subordinate appointments under them they would be guided by the interests of the State and its people rather than by considerations of a selfish or personal nature. If the poorer kind of men cannot be found within the State, they are certainly justified in importing men from outside; but every effort should be made to develop indigenous talent, and the natives of the soil should be given the first chance in every opening they are able to fill. We are not in a position to say exactly how far the Indian officers lent to Kashmir State have tried or neglected to give effect to this principle, but the feeling growing against them is, as we have said, very much to be regretted; the more so as both Kashmiris and natives of India have a common enemy to fight in the greater and greater encroachment of the European element in the State service. This evil of an increasing European element is not peculiar to the Kashmir public service, but with the exception of one or two States blessed with cultured and wideawake rulers—Baroda, for instance—is common to all. It is an evil which requires facing resolutely if the educated men of India are not to be deprived of the only field yet open to them for exercising their administrative abilities. It therefore behoves all educated natives of India, whether they belong to British territory or the Native States, not to increase their mutual differences and animosities, and thus make the way all the more easy for Europeans to get into the service of the Indian Chiefs. Kashmir has its 'native-foreigner' question, and Patiala is just at present almost in a state of ferment over its Hindu-Muhammadan question. Kashmiris complain that outsiders from British India are monopolising all the loaves and fishes of office, and the Hindus of Patiala are groaning, to quote the words of a correspondent, under 'an overwhelming sense' of injustice and unfairness owing to the preference that the Muhammadans are having in the public service of the State under the present regime. No wonder that both Kashmir and Patiala should have become the happy hunting ground of the European fortune-seeker. It is the mutual jealousies of Indians that have always kept them divided and weak and made them the easy victims of stroger influences from outside. We humbly commend this point of view to the

distinguished Indian gentlemen who hold such a large share of power and patronage in the States of Kashmir and Patiala. If it should be pleaded that the power and patronage are passing out of their hands, and that they are mere ciphers in the States in question owing to the increasing influence of Europeans, we should say that it is not a little due to their own fault. In both cases they have had a splendid opportunity to be all-powerful by subordinating their personal concerns to the interests of the subject people and thus securing the latter's good will, the absence of which furnishes the European with his excuse for appearing on the scene."

VII.—General Administration.

(*a*).—*Judicial.*

Justice in the Punjab.

16. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 16th November 1904, writes:—

"The *Punjabee* in a recent issue gives the judgment of the Judges of the Chief Court passed on a certain case called Hyder Ali Shah *versus* Emperor, which reveals the sad plight in which the judicial administration of the Punjab is at present. It only more than justifies the popular belief that justice can hardly be obtained in the subordinate or lower courts of the Punjab. Here is a case carefully tried 'in the first instance by a District Magistrate, and again on appeal by a learned Sessions Judge' who had come to the conclusion after *careful* and *patient* hearings that the accused was guilty. Yet on revision by the Chief Court it transpires that 'the evidence is not sufficiently strong to justify a conviction in any of the three cases (brought against the accused)' and that, therefore, the Hon'ble Judges of the Chief Court were obliged to set aside the conviction and sentence passed by the learned Judges of the lower courts on the accused. Could there be a more glaring example of the tortuous ways in which the meaning of law and sometimes the significance of hard bare facts are perverted to suit the judicial imaginations of a learned Judge exercising indomitable power over the criminals? Moreover, one can imagine how many innocents have thus daily to succumb to the base use to which the law of the country is put sometimes by responsible officials. Thousands of poor men who are unfortunate enough to be implicated with litigation of any kind are being frittered away of their energies in sober patience by the errors of the Executive. Who is responsible for sacrificing the happiness, pleasure and perhaps the lives of these men who unfortunately come under the sway of the Executive Officers who could not distiguish between the *hard* and *obvious facts* and minute delicate points of *law?* Is it not incumbent upon the Government in consideration of bare justice and fair play to bring in a less scandalous state of things and restoring order and peace among the doomed litigators of this province."

(*h*).—*Miscellaneous.*

Collisions between Natives and Europeans.

17. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 5th November 1904, says that the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* of Calcutta reports that a certain European has been charged with assaulting a respectable Native woman with intent to violate her chastity. At the same time the *Civil and Military Gazette* has reported that the Madrasi Mir Munshi of the 18th Mopla Infantry Regiment has been rigorously imprisoned for six months on the charge of having outraged the modesty of a European maid-servant by presenting to her a book containing obscene pictures. This being so, it is to be hoped that the European aforesaid also will be punished in an exemplary manner, and that he will not be let off with the remark that he was drunk or temporarily insane at the time he committed the offence. This sort of game has been going on for a long time and the people have just cause for complaint

in the matter. It is, however, impossible to remedy the evil as long as a special law of a rigorous character is not passed to cope with it, or Natives are not allowed to avenge themselves on the European insulters of their females. The Editor then goes on to say that it is strange that Europeans under the influence of liquor or temporary insanity should assault only Natives, carefully abstaining from molesting persons of their own nationality. It remains to be seen, he adds, how long the authorities will continue indifferent in the matter and how long the people will be able to put up with such maltreatment.

The use of cocaine as a stimulant.

18. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 15th November 1904, complains that the use of cocaine has of late become very common throughout India, especially in the Bengal Presidency. Its consumption being, however, very injurious to health, Government were kind enough to tax the drug with a view to rendering it still dearer. But even this proved of no avail, and the number of cocaine shops went on increasing fast. And the evil having assumed alarming proportions in Benares the authorities have been forced to cancel all licenses for the sale of cocaine. The Editor approves of the proceeding and suggests that the example should be followed in other cities and towns throughout the country.

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

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Received up to 26th November 1904.

I.—POLITICS.

(a)—*Foreign.*

The Treaty with Tibet.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st November 1904, remarks that China refuses to ratify the Treaty concluded with Tibet by Colonel Younghusband. She has been put up to this by Russia, Germany and Italy, who have also managed to turn the United States against England. All these Powers are busy picking holes in the Treaty, and this may result in straining the relations between them and the British. At all events, it would seem that the document has been pigeon-holed, for a time at least, which means that the money and labour expended in connection with the Tibet Mission have been thrown away.

The same.

2. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 18th November 1904, remarks that the Treaty is a strange one. It is being excessively rejoiced over in this country, while the *Pioneer* regards it as a great triumph of British diplomacy. It has not, however, been ratified by China; and the Dowager Empress demands the substitution of "China" for "Tibet" throughout. Nevertheless, the British Government can take advantage of the document, such as it is, to prevent all other Powers from interfering in Tibetan affairs. "Verily the saying 'might is right' is as true to-day as it was in the age of barbarism."

The same.

3. Writing on the same subject the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 23rd November 1904, says—

"The situation is, therefore, extremely unsatisfactory. We hope that Lord Curzon will be able to clear up this difficulty and try to spare India further expenditure of blood and treasure without allowing the prestige of the Government to suffer in the least degree."

4. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 18th November 1904, writing about the despatch of a Commercial Mission to Persia, observes that the step is likely to prove beneficial to the people of India, calculated as it is to induce them to increase their trade with the Shah's dominions. The Editor also approves of the constitution of the Mission and feels confident that it will prove a success.

The Commercial Mission to Persia.

5. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th November 1904, writing about the ill-treatment of Indian immigrants in the Transvaal, says that the white residents of the late Boer Republic are of opinion that the former being members of a conquered race they should be content to live the life of coolies. Unfortunately for the said immigrants the Boers and the British Colonists have made common cause against them and would drive them out of the Transvaal at once. They are holding public meetings, at which they vent their spleen against Indians ; while some of them have gone the length of declaring that they will set up a Republic in case of the Mother Country not falling in with their wishes. It is the example of the Australian Commonwealth, the Legislature of which has passed certain anti-Asiatic measures, which has made them adopt their present attitude. There are over 100,000 Indians in Natal alone, but evidently they are powerless to help their fellow-countrymen in the Transvaal.

British Indians in the Transvaal.

6. The *Sát Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 18th November 1904, says that the successes achieved by Japan against Russia have taken Europe by surprise. Till recently Europeans used to look down upon Asiatics ; but the war in the Far East has made them change their opinion. They have come to the conclusion that the Asiatic peoples are not wholly effete, so much so that the British War Office has directed that in future four Military officers of the rank of Captain or Lieutenant shall annually be sent to Japan to complete their military education. The change, which is a very great one, is noteworthy, and shows that the star of Asia is to be in the ascendant once more.

European Powers and Asia.

(*b*)—*Home.*

7. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 17th November 1904, says that Lord Kitchener's Scheme is certain to increase the efficiency of the Indian Army. Natives of India should feel thankful to His Excellency for the confidence he has displayed in them, for he proposes to discontinue the posting of troops in the interior of the country. The Editor is, however, afraid that the coming changes can confer no real benefit on the people as long as Natives are not given higher posts in the Army and Military expenditure is not considerably reduced. The Commander-in-Chief should also allow Natives to serve Government as Volunteers, and thereby lay them under a deep debt of obligation.

Lord Kitchener's Scheme for the Reorganisation of the Indian Army.

8. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 17th November 1904, remarks that whenever one of those Native gentlemen who profess to be sincere well-wishers of the country goes to England the people are thrown into an ecstasy of joy. They expect great things from his journey to their rulers' land, and delude themselves into the belief that he will represent their hard lot to the King-Emperor, the Secretary of State, and Members of Parliament. Nothing of the kind is, however, done by their champion, who is charmed into silence, by what means it is difficult to say, in England. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* then goes on to say that although India has been impoverished owing to her having had to pay different "subscriptions" and the cost of different wars, the whites from England cannot endure the black people of this country, some of the former regarding the latter as worse than dogs.

The Relations between Anglo Indians and Natives.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

9. In connection with the Kabul Mission the *Observer* (Lahore), of the 23rd November 1904, writes—

The Kabul Mission.

"Another problem which the Mission will approach is that of the right of His Highness to purchase and import through India munitions of war. There can be no denying the fact that the previous treaties with Kabul fix no limit to which the Amir can import arms through British dominions. But we are told that it was not expected that the right would be exercised to a degree 'which was certainly not contemplated when the Durand Agreement was signed,' and some people entertain anxious apprehensions about this 'unlimited accumulation of modern weapons' in Afghanistan. But they should recall what the late Amir is stated to have said when questioned as to the reason of this increase of the munitions of war. Abdur Rahman said that the conditions of modern warfare were such that the arms and ammunitions prepared in Kabul for one year would be spent in one day. Amir Habibulla follows in the footsteps of his father and devotes his attention chiefly to the defence of his territories against Russia, for the economic and social development of Afghanistan depends, as in the case of other countries, on its internal peace and immunity from external danger. It is not easy to understand why those who can never get rid of the nightmare of a Russian invasion of India should object to the preparations of our ally against such a possibility. The less we are compelled to assist the Amir in such a contingency the more welcome will it be to the people of India; for if he is able to hurl back the Muscovite invasion without outside help, India will be spared the burden of a long and sanguinary war. We must, on the other hand, afford him every facility for importing munitions of war and be on the best of terms with him.

"The question of the subsidy of His Highness is certain to be introduced. 'Amir Habibulla,' says the *Times*, 'has not drawn any portion of the annual allowance of eighteen lakhs of rupees which was secured to his father by the Durand Agreement, and, as the same thing had occurred during the last years of Abdur Rahman's reign, the money has been accumulating to the credit of the present Ruler of Afghanistan in our hands. It is obvious that this process might be attended, in contingencies which are conceivable, with serious inconvenience. The Amir is welcome to draw his subsidy when he chooses; but he cannot reasonably expect us to go on heaping up a great treasure for him which shall be at his call.' The cause why His Highness does not draw the subsidy is difficult to discover; but if it implies any desire on His Highness' part to forego it in exchange for some other concessions, there is no doubting the sentiment of the people of this country on the point. They would heartily welcome an arrangement by which Indian revenues might be secured against this drain. If the Mission can see their way to its abolition by granting the Amir certain concessions on the Frontier or by meeting his wishes in some other respect, it will be remembered in India as the best of the Missions ever despatched by Government."

III.—Native States.

Lord Ampthill's Visit to Kashmir.

10. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1904, writes—

"The Viceroy's visit to Kashmir has given rise to speculations of various kinds among the natives of the Province, and consequences both good and bad are expected to follow from the visit. Whatever the ultimate result of the visit may be to the human population of Kashmir, it is to be feared that the game birds of the Maharaja's territory have no reason to be thankful for it. His Excellency is having no end of shooting, and the newspaper correspondents make gleeful references to the daily 'bags' as if they were the surest indications of the march of civilization and the progress of Christianity in the benighted land. A report dated the 23rd says that the 22nd was 'devoted' to a duck shoot on 'an immense scale,' and that by 5 o'clock '650 ducks were laid out on the bank'—O the pleasant spectacle! The correspondent, however, would be sorry to have it understood that the 650 ducks 'laid out' represented the entire extent of the Viceregal and Christian amusement of the day. He is careful to inform his readers (both gentlemen and ladies) that "the pick-up was far short of the actual score in killed, owing to the great difficulty in finding the birds in the high reeds and grass,' and that 'the neighbouring jheels were also shot the same time;' so that, the correspondent feels a positive relief in being able to state, 'the total bag must have been well over 1,200.' After finishing this civilized pastime of killing 1,200 of God's creatures in one day, His Excellency, with Lady Ampthi l and staff, attended a State banquet given by the Maharaja at his palace. At the end of the banquet Lord Ampthill, of course, did the first duty of thanking the Maharaja for his hospitality, and then discoursed to His Highness on the blessings of civilization that were going to be introduced into his territory—blessings which would make duck shoots all the more frequent and merrier for distinguished English visitors. Chief among these blessings was, of course, to be the proposed Kashmir Railway. The Kashmir Government, the Viceroy 'informed' the Maharaja (according to the *Pioneer*), were considering a 'magnificent and comprehensive scheme which would mitigate the risk of floods in Kashmir, largely extend cultivation, extract the hidden treasures from the mountains, give profitable employment to large classes of population, provide improved means of communication with the outer world,' and achieve numberless other wonderful things—including, of course, the increase of facilities for duck shoots. His Excellency 'hoped the Maharaja would live to see the completion of the noble enterprise;' a pious wish, no doubt, to which we heartily say "Amen!" But we dare not probe into the recesses of the poor Maharaja's heart to know whether His Highness hoped, or even wished, to survive such a happy consummation or not. Between duck shoots on one side and exploitation by railway and other Western enterprises on the other, the poor heathen may well feel confounded, and wish that he had better be left to his accustomed floods and famines, his idols and prayers, and above all to the Oriental's priceless treasure of resignation to the Divine will!"

VI.—Legislation.

The Real Object of the Universities Act.

11. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 18th November 1904, says that the real object with which Lord Curzon has passed the Universities Act has been very little understood. Sir Thomas Raleigh, the Chairman of the Universities Commission, has contributed to a Christian Mission paper an article which throws a flood of light on the point. It would appear that the Act is intended to bring the students of colleges more under the influence of European Professors with the view of enabling the latter to mould the former's character after their own heart. Evidently Lord Curzon is of opinion that it being impossible to suppress education in India, the only way to strengthen British rule in the country is to make Native youths studying in colleges borrow their ideas from their Christian teachers.

And this being so, the time is not far distant when the employment of European Professors of English and Philosophy will be made compulsory for all colleges, public as well as private. The Editor then states that the *Gurukul*, which was started to meet such contingencies, brings up its students in the Vedic religion and therefore merits the support of all Hindus.

The Land Alienation Act.

12. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th November 1904, says that the Land Alienation Act has in no way benefited the agriculturists. It has no doubt brought about a falling off in litigation, but that is the natural result of the cessation of dealings between *Sahukars and Zamindars*. Besides, this would have proved beneficial to Zamindars only if it had not been accompanied by a dimunition in the price of land. The Editor then suggests that if the passing of the Act was necessary it should have been provided that the sale of land to a non-agriculturist, who offered a higher price for it than a member of an agricultural tribe, was permissible, subject of course to the sanction of the Deputy Commissioner.

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

Text-Books for Indian Schools.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1904, writes—

"In continuatin of our recent remarks on the undesirability of high-placed Educational Officers of being allowed to have any pecuniary interest in the production of text-books for schools, we feel bound to protest strongly against the tendency observable in some parts of India to encourage English Publishers to bring out series of reading books in the Vernacular. From the catalogue mentioned in the note referred to, we learn that Messrs. Macmillan and Company, Limited, have published Readers and Manuals of Arithmetic, Grammar, History and Geography in Urdu, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu, Bengali, Urya, Kanarese, Burmese, and Malayalam, and some other Indian vernaculars. It is stated also in the catalogue that these books have been approved by most of the Text-Book Committees and Departments of Public Instruction in India. We have seen some of these books—particularly those in Urdu—and are of opinion that they are not at all superior to similar books published through the indigenous agency. Their get up is decidedly better, and in some cases they are better illustrated, but they also are higher in price. We do not deny that English Publishers are in a position to supply this country with English Readers better printed and got up than can be managed locally, at any rate at present, but we do not admit that they can place in the market as good books in the Vernacular, and on as reasonable terms, as local publishers and booksellers. We hope it is not intended, as one of the distinguishing features of the new arrangements relating to education in India, gradually to displace the indigenous agency by its foreign competitors in the matter of supplying the schools with text-books of all kinds in the vernaculars. Complete officialisation of Text-Book Committees throughout India was the first step taken by the Government of Lord Curzon in their campaign to officialise Indian education and curb indigenous development. Schools should have a good deal of freedom in the choice of text-books, and if such freedom was allowed nobody would have any reason to complain if English publishers managed to secure some use for their publications. But as we all know, schools have no choice in the matter, and to force on them books which if they had the option they would not adopt is to strike deep at the very root of educational progress in this country. The complaint has been made more than once that during the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon a great deal has been done to identify the Government of India as closely as possible with the policy of the exploitation of the country by the British capitalist; and nobody can deny that the complaint is true. Is this encroachment of the British Publishers on indigenous preserves also a detail of that policy?"

(f)—*Railways and Communications.*

The Simla-Kalka Railway.

14. The *Sat Dharam Pracharak* (Jullundur), of the 18th November 1904, says that the Simla-Kalka Railway has already cost Rs. 1,60,00,000, and several lakhs more are required to extend it to the Simla Bazar. The Mail Service, however, is still carried on by means of tongas, while no great saving even of time has been effected. The large sum of money the railway has cost would have been much better spent in facilitating communication between a number of villages. But who cares for the convenience of poor Natives when it is possible to add even a little to the comfort of Europeans?

Frequent occurrence of Accidents on Indian Railways.

15. The *Railway and Engineering News* (Jullundur), of the 16th November 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer says that the frequent occurrence of Railway accidents, which in the majority of cases are attributable to negligence on the part of Railway employés, have earned the department a bad name. After referring to the recent collisions at Malkowal and Roiti as cases in point, the Editor observes that they could not have happened in Europe, where both Government and the Press unite in bringing the persons responsible to book. In India, however, the case is different; the newspapers seldom take notice of Railway accidents; while the people regard them as the acts of God. The writer then goes on to suggest that if the Railway Department were to increase its staff so that those who under the existing arrangements work 24 hours were to work only 12 hours a day, accidents would not occur so frequently.

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I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

Prince George's Suggestion to annex Crete to Greece.

1. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1904, remarks that Prince George has recently addressed a memorandum to the Powers soliciting their help in the annexation of Crete to Greece, and alleging that if that result is not brought about Cretan Christians will break out into revolt. It would appear from this that the Prince is bent upon doing away even with the nominal suzerainty of the Sultan over Crete, which has been held by the Turks for the last 150 years at the sacrifice of thousands of lives. Had Christian Europe possessed the least sense of justice, Prince George would never have dared to make the preposterous proposal. As it is, religious bigotry reigns supreme at the present moment and no notice is taken of the grievances of the Musalmans of Crete who, being grossly oppressed, are migrating to other places, leaving behind property worth lakhs of rupees.

(*b*)—*Home.*

The Decadence of the Martial Spirit in India.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 24th November 1904, remarks that the Martial Spirit is fast dying out, even among those races of India which were distinguished for their warlike qualities not more than 50 years back. It is true that, thanks to British rule, peace reigns throughout the country, for which the people are thankful to Government. That, however, is no reason why they should leave the task of defending their land entirely to Government and should themselves do nothing in the matter. The Editor is afraid that if the warlike races of India continue to decline at the present rate it will become difficult for Government, in another half century, to find recruits for the Army. Even now it is only the Punjab and Rohilkhand, in the plains, which can supply recruits of suitable physique. The Presidencies of Madras and Bombay have become almost effete and cannot supply sufficient suitable

men for the Police service even. As for the Bengalis and Kashmiris, they have always been considered unfit for Military service, while the people of the United Provinces in the plains have come to lose all liking for that service. Indeed, with the exception of a few hill tribes, which still adopt the profession of arms as a means of earning their livelihood, the martial spirit has well-nigh died out in those Provinces, and in Central India as well. The Rajputs of semi-independent Native States, who are in a position to maintain their old traditions, are also growing averse to a Military life. The *Pioneer* seems to have realised the gravity of the situation, as is evident from an article published by it in one of its recent issues. That paper has, however, suggested no remedy to arrest the decline of the martial spirit amongst the people of India as a nation. In conclusion, the *Paisa Akhbar* asks whether the Arms Act and the denial to Natives of the privilege of volunteering has nothing to do with the evil.

Native Christians and Military Service.

3. The *Nur Afshan* (Ludhiana), of the 25th November 1904, refers to the decision to form regiments of Native Christians in the Madras Presidency, and thanks Government for the step. It is, however, of opinion that the concession should be extended to Native Christians in other parts of India also, especially in the Punjab.

The Administration of Lord Curzon and Lord Ampthill.

4 The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 3rd December 1904, writes—

"Lord Curzon has after all set sail for India, in order to accomplish the great work which he has in view. His strong administration and the powerful grasp of the political situation in India all go to prove his capabilities as a governing personage, but the serious injuries which our country sustained through strong administration of his fill our minds with apprehensions at his return. The Bombay Corporation has resolved to present an address of welcome to His Excellency on his landing on the Indian shores, and we do not think we should be lacking in loyalty if we say that this welcome to the returning Viceroy is not a whole hearted one. It is with mixed feelings of hope and despair that the people will greet Lord Curzon on his return to India—despair at the failure of his past administration and hope at the prospect of a turn for the better that this administration of his might take in future. There is always a possibility of a strong administration either ruining a country or raising its material condition, and it is on the latter possibility that the Indians are building their hopes. Let us hope that Lord Curzon set sail for India in an auspicious moment and the strength of his second administration might prove a blessing to the country instead of a scourge.

"It is, however, sweet to reflect on the period of calm—say rather listlessness that has intervened between the first and second administration of Lord Curzon. Peace and calmness have been the chief characteristics of Lord Ampthill's short *regimé*. How different from the boisterous legislative proceedings and the fiery official speeches of Lord Curzon's rule! Well, we will be falling short of our duty if we say that we approve of such a listless administration, but we as Indians must confess that we want a calm and smooth gliding down of political affairs without the excitement of the public mind to anything. Government, it seemed, first took the people in its confidence and raised their minds to a high pitch of excitement and then let them lose to grope their way out of the difficulty for themselves. This has been the worst feature of Lord Curzon's rule. Many a Bill had been at the Legislative anvil for months together without any final issue and many semblances of big political reforms have been taken in hand

by his Government only to end in huge *fiascos*. We must say that these things have been altogether absent during Lord Ampthill's rule and the people realised the blessing which such a state of things bring in. Let us hope that we shall have less of fuss and more of solid work during the second administration of Lord Curzon."

III.—Native States.

Lord Ampthill's Speech at the Maharaja of Kashmir's Banquet.

5. The following appears in the *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1904:—

"Lord Ampthill's speech at the Maharaja's banquet at Srinagar was pitched in a very modest and amiable key, and had none of the jarring notes which would surely have marked the high-pitched eloquence of the noble Lord whose place he took as guest to the Kashmir State. It did not abound in references to the great achievements of British officers in general and of the speaker in particular, such as the newspaper reader has of late been accustomed to in Viceregal utterances, and but for the unhappy association of the speech, as printed in the *Pioneer*, with the report of the duck shoot 'on an immense scale' immediately preceding, its general effect is rather agreeable than otherwise. Of course, the allusions were rather frequent to the 'fascinating' nature of the country, its 'lovely and romantic' scenery and the 'enchanting valley,' so as to make the native Kashmiri feel uneasy like the chaste maiden whom the rude gaze of the opposite sex makes wish that her attractions were less lovely, while the reference to the near undertaking of the Railway enterprise was likely to increase this feeling of uneasiness in simple and timid people who cannot fully appreciate the benefits of such civilizing agencies; but there can be no doubt that His Excellency was sincere in the expression of his good wishes for the Maharaja and his State, and that he responded to His Highness' toast with the same genuine warmth with which it has been proposed. His Excellency made a pleasant allusion to the visit paid by him to the Maharaja at Jammu, eleven years ago, as a private traveller, since which time relations of a cordial nature and interchange of correspondence appear to have existed between the two distinguished personages. The Maharaja was further complimented on his gift of prophecy in having wished at that early date that His Lordship might return some day as Viceroy—a wish which has been reiterated several times during the past eleven years and has been strangely but literally fulfilled. His Excellency next referred to the two great industrial projects that were now before the Kashmir Government which seemed to indicate to His Excellency the 'dawn of a new era' of prosperity for the country. These were the construction of a railway to the plains and the undertaking of 'great schemes for the utilisation of the splendid water power which lies hidden in the Jhelum.' The Maharaja was congratulated on having sought advice with regard to these schemes from Major Joly de Lotbiniere, the eminent Engineer who has so recently demonstrated in Mysore, in connection with the Kauvery Falls, what magnificent means of mechanical power and wealth can be called into being in India by the application of scientific inventions upon natural resources. 'There are great undeveloped resources in the State,' said His Excellency, 'and the power which can turn them into productive wealth and give scope to various manufacturing industries is at hand in the Jhelum River.' This is all very true, but the pity of it is that all these sources of wealth fall into the hands of the foreign benefactors who discover them, and who are not willing to rest content with the scientific satisfaction of teaching the natives how to utilise them, but must have the largest share of the benefits accruing therefrom for themselves. This is a disadvantage of civilization which the philanthropic rulers who are in charge of the destinies of this country are expected to obviate, otherwise even the happy valley of Kashmir may find that its days of seclusion, when people loved it for its romantic scenery, were more enviable than when the roar of business and din of traffic would signify only the proud tread of the European capitalist reducing the natives to the condition of mere

hewers of wood and drawers of water. The march of civilization among backward communities has attendant evils which are hardly compensated for by the advantages, and it is the duty of a truly civilized Government so to arrange that the latter may outweigh the former instead of allowing the principle of 'devil take the hindmost' have full sway."

The same.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 26th November 1904, remarks that for some time past it had been apprehended in certain quarters that Government intended annexing Gilgit, Hunza and some other parts of Kashmir. The speech made by Lord Ampthill at the State banquet given in his honour at Srinagar has, however, had the effect of allaying this misapprehension. There is no mention in it that Government contemplates taking the step feared, while there is much in it calculated to gratify both the Ruler and the well-wishers of the Kashmir State.

The same.

7. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 28th November 1904, writes to a similar effect.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

8. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 2nd December 1904, remarks that in spite of efforts to bring Hindus and Muhammadans closer together, the gulf between them is being widened daily, so much so that they do not hesitate to fight and shed blood over mere trifles. The Editor mentions the recent Hindu-Muhammadan riots at Dacca, and advises the two communities to make better use of their time and money. They should make up their differences and learn to live like friends, this being the only way to ensure the advancement of both. They have had enough of quarrelling and should now unite and devise means for the betterment of "the country and the nation." It was the existence of disunion in the communities which led to the downfall of the power of both Hindus and Musalmans, while their mutual dissensions are the cause of their having been made slaves of by foreigners. God has been pleased to place them under a just and peaceful Government like the British, and it will be to their everlasting shame if they do not profit by the situation.

Indian Mendicants and Indian Charity.

9. The *Khalsa Advocate* (Amritsar), of the 28th November 1904, writes—

"Again, *psuedo Sadhus* are sucking up the life-blood of the nation. Very few of us care to devote any thought to this subject, and try to imagine the magnitude of this evil. In India there are no less than 52 lakhs of people of this class, who have made it their business to live upon the fruits of the working members of the nation. If the money which the Sikh nation contributes to support the 'vampires' be properly used, or, if these 'do-nothing drones' could be made to work for the cause of the *Panth*, things will immediately take a very lucky turn. Very few of us, we are afraid, care to use our '*brains*.' The charity of the nation now flows indiscriminately and profusely in these and such other channels, the result of which is that many a really useful institution suffers."

VII.—General Administration.

(e)—Agriculture and questions affecting the land.

10. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 29th November 1904, remarks that wheat, which is the staple food of the people of India, is exported to foreign countries in immense quantities. The result is that the people of India are constantly on the verge of starvation and their physique is deteriorating rapidly. It is a pathetic fact that even those who grow wheat have not infrequently to go without it and are rendered wholly destitute by the failure of a single crop. The agricultural classes are, for several reasons, so steeped in poverty that they must perforce convert the produce of their lands into cash, and can lay by little or no grain for their own use. And although the area under cultivation is daily on the increase in every province, and Government has extended the means of irrigation and communication, and the prices of food stuffs have gone up, zamindars are less prosperous now than they were in pre-British days. This is attributed to various causes, *e. g.*, over-assessment of land revenue, extravagant habits of the agriculturists and litigation; but the problem remains unsolved.

The Condition of Zamindars.

(h)—Miscellaneous.

11. The *Punjab Times* (Rawalpindi), of the 26th November 1904, in discussing the plague policy of Government remarks—

The Plague Policy of Government.

"Let our people rise to the occasion and show that they have yet the capability of managing their own affairs, if the Government is favourably disposed towards their actions. Let them all unite in one common bond of love and fellowship and try to eradicate one of the mightiest scourges of God from our country. Thanks be to the Almighty that we now have one homogeneous Government plague policy throughout the whole of India and it is high time that the people should realise their responsibility in the matter and try their level best in according a hearty co-operation to the Government. The advice contained in the resolution is all calculated to check the spread of the disease, and none of these suggestions, we think, goes against either the prejudices or the social interests of the people. And if the people have any misunderstanding on a certain point, there is no reason why they should withhold the help which they can render in other points."

12. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 30th November 1904, observes that the present generation of Anglo-Indian official is not as polite and well mannered as his predecessor of pre-Mutiny days used to be. He is harsh and overbearing, revels in abusive language, and looks down upon the children of the soil. There is hardly any department of the public service in this country in which a British official of this stamp is not to be found.

Anglo-Indian Officials and the People.

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SELECTIONS

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I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Tibet Mission.

1. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd December 1904, says that the *Rahbar* newspaper reports that two Chinese Commissioners are on their way to Lhassa, and that after making certain enquiries there they will prepare the draft of a fresh treaty and submit it to the Government of India for approval. In other words, the Tibet Mission has ended in a *fiasco*, and the money, about Rs. 1,00,00,000, spent on by it has been thrown away. The Editor regrets that the hard-earned money of the starving people of India should have been wasted like this.

The Apprehended Russian Invasion of India.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 6th December 1904, says that the *Review of Reviews* remarks that both Lord Curzon and Lord Kitchener expect a war with Russia in the coming spring. But Russia's hands being full in the Far East, this is out of the question ; she has not even been able to oppose British interference in Tibet. It is idle to imagine that Russia will invade India at the present juncture, but if she ever does take the step, the blame will rest with British Statesmen, who are constantly offering her provocation.

The same.

3. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of the 22nd November 1904, remarks that Russia has long been casting covetous eyes on India, but that it is simply impossible for her to successfully invade this country. She can march on India through Afghanistan or Kashmir alone, but both the Amir and the Maharaja may be relied upon to hurl back the Russian forces. And this being so, it is of the utmost importance that Government should treat these Rulers, as well as the Frontier tribes, with consideration.

4. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 2nd December 1904, remarks that some newspapers are advising Great Britain to obtain a footing in Persia and deliver that country from Russian intrigues. This means that England should supplant Russian influence in the Shah's dominions and convert the country into a British dependency. There can be no doubt that Russia having been weakened in the Far East is powerless to prevent the English from taking this step; still it would be unmanly on their part to do so at the present juncture. Besides, their difficulties in Tibet have not yet come to an end, and they must avoid involving themselves in fresh troubles. The best course for the British Government to pursue would be to increase its Military strength in the Persian Gulf and obtain the necessary influence in Persia by slow degrees.

Persia, Russia and England.

(*b*)—*Home.*

5. The *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 8th December 1904, says that the Musalmans of Northern India are gradually coming over to the side of the National Congress. Some of their leaders have openly asserted that it would prove injurious to their community to stand aloof from the movement and have advised their co-religionists either to establish a Political Association of Musalmans or to throw in their lot with the Congress. The *Oudh Akhbar*, the *Urdu-i-Moulla* and the *Nusrat-ul-Akhbar* have taken up the cause of the Congress and are of opinion that the people of India can make no progress without participating in the propaganda.

Muhammadans and the National Congress.

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

6. The *Curzon Gazette* (Delhi), of the 23rd November 1904, says that it has not transpired yet with what object Government has sent a Mission to Kabul. It may, however, be mentioned that the necessity for connecting Kandahar with British territory by railway and establishing telegraphic communication between Kabul and Herat has long been keenly felt in political circles. Again, if the Amir were to agree to the quartering of a British force in Kabul or its suburbs, Government would be in a far better position to meet a Russian invasion of India. And it is not unlikely that the above are among the questions to be settled by the Mission. But the question naturally arises what the result will be if the Amir refuses to agree to the last proposal. The *Curzon Gazette* is of opinion that, instead of fighting over it, Government would be well advised in affording His Highness every facility for himself opposing a Russian advance. The Editor remarks that it is practically impossible for the British to conquer or even occupy Afghanistan, and that Habibulla Khan, who is fully alive to the requirements of the times, may be relied upon. He reiterates his suggestion that fighting Russia through the Afghans is the best way to check Russian designs on India.

The Kabul Mission.

III.—Native States.

7. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 24th November 1904, says that the pamphet containing indirect attacks on Maulvi Abdul Ghafur, Wazir of the Rampur State (*vide* paragraph 8 of Selections No 45), is most probably

Rampur Affairs.

the work of one Shekh Zia-ul-Haq of Hapur. The Shekh is in the habit of bringing out such publications with the object of extorting money from Native Chiefs. Some time back he published a pamphlet attacking Munshi Mumtaz Ali Khan, the then Wazir of Bhopal, but the venture proved a failure from a pecuniary point of view. The Editor then goes on to say that the past history of Rampur shows clearly enough that there has always existed a clique in the State the object of which is to bring discredit upon the Wazir, whoever he may be.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Disunion between Hindus and Muhammadans.

8. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 25th November 1904, remarks that India having been conquered by Great Britain, its people can never be placed on a footing of equality with the British. It was the existence of disunion among them which led to the conquest of their country by the British; and the most profitable course for them to adopt now is to exert themselves to promote union in the land. Instead of demanding their rights of Government and thereby creating still further estrangement between the various sections of the population, they should direct all their energies to the task of uprooting the evil of disunion. And when this has been done and the people are united and work together, their rights will be granted to them without having to be asked for.

The Urdu-Hindi Question in the Punjab.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 2nd December 1904, says that the Arya Samaj was the first to create bad blood between the Hindus and Muhammadans of the Punjab. It revived certain long-forgotten historical incidents and coined several stories to poison the minds of Hindus against the Prophet's followers. The inflammable writings on the subject are not confined to books and pamphlets, but have found their way into newspapers. It is true that Musalmans, especially the Ahmadis, have not been slow to retort, but the fact remains that the first stone was thrown by the Aryas. The religious controversies and discussions in question had so far been conducted in a common language (Urdu), and it was hoped that the differences would be made up with the advance of education. The realisation of the hope is, however, about to be rendered very uncertain, if not altogether impossible. On the occasion of the recent anniversary of the Lahore Arya Samaj, Lala Sunder Das, B.A. (Pandit Shayam Sunder?), Secretary of the Nagri Parcharni Sabha, (Benares) asked the Aryas to introduce the Nagri character into the Punjab. And what is still more to be regretted he imprated a religious colour to the question and called upon Swami Dayanand's followers to adopt Hindi as their national language. The Editor is afraid that if the suggestion is carried into effect, it will not only injure Urdu, but widen the gulf between the Hindus and Muhammadans of the Punjab.

The *Tahsib-i-Islam* by Dharam Pal.

10. The *Sat Dharam Parcharak* (Jullundur), of the 2nd December 1904, publishes a review by Lala Munshi Ram of the first volume of a book entitled the *Tahsib-i-Islam* from the pen of one Dharam Pal (formerly Abdul Ghafur, B.A., a convert to the Arya faith). The publication is a reply to the pamphlets brought out by Hakim Nur-ud-din of Bhera and Maulvi Sanaulla of Amritsar, who have not only bitterly attacked the author for

having changed his faith, but have heaped abuse on Swami Dayanand and the Vedas. The *Tahsib-i-Islam* has been written in an easy and interesting style and is to consist of three parts, the first of which—that under review—contains as many as 412 pages. It is priced at Re. 1 and can be obtained from the Manager of the *Sat Dharam Parcharak*.

The Arya Samaj and its Opponents.

11. The same paper publishes a communication from Salig Ram, Sharma, Secretary, Arya Samaj, Kandhala, who remarks that, as has happened at more than one place, after a newly established Samaj has completed its preparations for celebrating its first anniversary, its opponents, the majority of whom consist of ignorant persons, submit representations to the District authorities praying that the Samaj may be prohibited from holding a *nagar-kirtan* procession on the occasion. The prayer is almost invariably based on the ground that the songs sung in connection with such processions contain attacks on non-Vedic religions, and are, therefore, likely to lead to a breach of the peace. The petitions are generally forwarded to some local official for enquiry and report, and as the opponents of the Aryas are in an overwhelming majority everywhere, they succeed in convincing him of the reasonableness of their prayer. This compels the last-named to support the petitioners; and on reciept of his report the Deputy Commissioner forthwith issues orders prohibiting the procession. The result is that the Samaj is constrained to forego the celebration of its anniversary, while its members find themselves exposed to the gibes and sneers of non-Aryas. But the worst of it is that the aforesaid order is made to serve as a precedent, and the Samaj is for ever deprived of that religious liberty which is enjoyed by every one else under the just British Government. The *Pritinidhi Sabha* and Arya newspapers should therefore take up the matter. Were District authorities convinced of the fact that the songs sung in connection with the *nagar-kirtan* processions are not what the opponents of the Aryas represent them to be, and that opposition to the processions is based on interested motives alone, they would be certain to pay no heed in future to worthless petitions like the above. In case the local officials or the District authorities actually apprehend a disturbance anywhere they should make suitable arrangements. To forbid the *nagar-kirtan* processions is to deeply wound the feelings of the members of the Arya Samaj, which is an enlightened and influential body.

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Proposed Schools for Agriculturists.

(12) Mirza Sultan Ahmad, an Extra Assistant Commissioner at Mianwali, writing to the *Zamindar* (Karmabad), of the 24th November 1904, remarks that agriculturists have always been fond of Government service, and that it is a perversion of truth to represent them as unfitted for anything but tilling the soil. The Moghals, Pathans, Rajputs, Syads, Qureshis, Aráins and Kambohs ara all zamindárs, but hundreds of them hold respectable posts in the public service. Besides, when the Indian peasant is more than adequately represented in both the Army and the Police Force, there is no reason why he should be excluded from other Departments. The proposal therefore to

establish separate schools for agriculturists with a view to making them confine their efforts to cultivation is hardly fair to them, especially when they are a poverty-stricken lot and lack the wherewithal to engage in trade or industry. To shut the doors of the public service in their faces is, moreover, incompatible with the sympathy which Government has always expressed for them.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

Famine in the Bombay Presidency.

13. The *Tribune* (Lahore), of the 8th December 1904, writes—

"It appears that the chorus of jubilation with which the so-called 'copious rains' in the Bombay Presidency had been hailed in the official world was a little premature. The agricultural situation in the Bombay Presidency is far from encouraging, and is apparently giving cause for anxiety to the Government, in spite of its time-honoured, if well intentioned, tendency to minimise its extent and its possibilities in its usual reports. The Bombay Government has submitted a report on the subject to the Government of India in which, 'though actual famine has been averted,' mention is made of the possibility of 'very considerable distress'—which latter condition, in official vocabulary, is invariably distinguishable from actual famine. In Guzerat—'where the condition of the people and the cattle is generally good'—the rain which fell in October 'has not brought about *any* apprcciable improvement'; and while 'there is no present ground of anxiety' in the Ahmedabad District, matters in its central tract 'are not satisfactory, and test-works'—not to be confounded with 'relief works,' which are necessitated by 'actual' famine—'have had to be opened.' 'A *grant* of Rs. 34,000'—for which notable act of disinterested kindness the starving tax-payer is immensely obliged to the Government—'has also been made' for 'other forms of assistance,' including '*gratuitous* relief.' This is indeed adding unduly to the weight of obligations under which the starving tax-payer appears already to be bent to a rather painful extent. In the Kaira District also 'test-works' have been opened on a rather more extensive scale, and in more than one district 'water-supply is deficient' and '*kacha* wells are being made by the people in the beds of tanks, rivers and streams.' In Broach the kharif *jowari* is 'withering,' cotton is 'suffering from want of moisture,' and bajri is 'expected to yield'—as the wording of the sentence would seem to imply—not a 'bumper harvest,' but 'only a three or four anna crop.' In this district a test-work is 'likely to be required.' Perhaps. In the Surat District the outlook is equally encouraging, and in more than one part of the presidency a growing scarcity of fodder is lending emphasis to the situation, whose shadow, it further appears, has spread beyond the natural limits of the Bombay Presidency. For in the Thar and Parkar Districts of Sindh 'the situation resembles,' we are told, 'that of 1898 rather than that of 1899,' and that 'though considerable expenditure for relief purposes is not likely to be required unless' and until 'there is another failure of rain in 1905,' it is advisable to sanction provisionally expenditure up to five thousand rupees on test-works,' and—"another five thousand rupees on *gratuitous* relief'—and we are unspeakably glad to learn that 'the sanction has been accorded.' Estimates of probable expenditure on famine relief, it appears, have been called for from Commissioners of Divisions and the Commissioner of Sindh, and on their receipt an application will be made to the Government of India for an allotment of the funds to meet this expenditure. Meanwhile two lakhs of rupees have been spent, and more are being spent, in tracing out the breeding-grounds of locusts and exterminating their eggs. We hope another two lakhs will be sanctioned for microscopes to make the work of locating locusts' eggs more effective, and, if possible, still another two lakhs for red tape to tie the wings of adult locusts with to render them incapable of aerial locomotion".

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I.—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Government and Tibet.

1. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 8th December 1904, says that, according to Anglo-Indian newspapers, British forces will be stationed at more than one place in Tibet. This conflicts with the solemn assurance given by Colonel Younghusband at the Potala Darbar that no part of the country would be occupied. It would seem that freedom and independence are, strictly speaking, very dangerous things, and cannot, besides, be of much use to the Tibetans. If the Grand Lama's followers have, therefore, been deprived of them, they have no complaint to make on that score. It comes to this that Tibet has, to all intents and purposes, become a dependency of Great Britain just as Manchuria passed into Russia's possession in 1900.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon.

2. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 8th and 12th December 1904, publishes the substance of the speech made by the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal at the recent St. Andrew's dinner at Calcutta. The Native public, it adds, cannot join His Honour in eulogising Lord Curzon's administration of the country. According to Sir Andrew Frazer His Lordship possesses two marked characteristics, *viz.* intense regard for righteousness and great consideration for the opinions of others. This is not, however, borne out by facts. While he has done his utmost to safeguard Imperial interests in India, Lord Curzon has paid very little attention to bettering the condition of His Majesty's impoverished Native subjects. Again, the Viceroy passed his Official Secrets Act in the teeth of universal opposition, and although he made Mr. Gokhale a C. I. E. in recognition of the latter's great abilities, he paid no heed to that gentleman's valuable criticism of the Universities Bill. The *Paisa Akhbar* then quotes Sir Andrew's remarks on the existing relations between the rulers and the ruled, and calls upon Anglo-Indian officials to take His Honour's advice to heart.

3. The *Sadiq-ul-Akhbar* (Rewari), of the 10th December 1904, reprints a paragraph from the *Hindustan* (Lahore), in which the latter paper says that the Bombay Corporation's address to Lord Curzon is an extremely colourless document. Indeed, it could not well have been otherwise. It has no praise for any of the measures introduced by His Lordship. And what has he done in his capacity of Viceroy for which the people of India can praise him? With the exception of Calcutta, adds the *Hindustan*, no other city is likely to follow the example of Bombay and present the returning Viceroy with an address of welcome. And even in the metropolis the address will emanate from the Municipal Committee, which, although a public body in name, is really an official institution. The thing is that Natives are not foolish enough to extend their welcome to a man who has conferred no benefit on them during the past five years, and from whom they expect little or no good in the future.

The same.

4. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 10th December 1904, remarks that the forthcoming session of the National Congress promises to prove a far greater success than any previous meeting. It remains to be seen, however, what the result of the deliberations will be,—whether the demands made at Bombay will be acceded to by Government, or whether they will be put aside like those made by the Congress during the last twenty years. At present India is under the Viceroyalty of Lord Curzon, during whose time the political condition of the country has, instead of improving, become far worse than it was ever before. The policy pursued by His Lordship has dealt a particularly hard blow to the cause of education, the disastrous consequences of which will be certain to make themselves manifest a few years hence. It is, therefore, of the highest importance that the people should, through the National Congress, lay their grievances before Government. And the Editor for one feels confident that the agitation will bear fruit sooner or later. He adds that, although a very large number of the Muhammadans of Bombay have joined the movement, very few of his co-religionists from out-stations are likely to attend the coming meetings of the Congress.

The National Congress.

5. The same paper of the 13th December 1904 publishes a communication from Qazi Kabir-ud-din of Bombay, who deprecates the indifference his co-religionists have hitherto displayed towards the Congress Movement. He contends that there is no truth in the statement that participation in the propaganda is against the Muhammadan religion. He has had occasion to talk about the National Congress with a number of leading Musalmans following different professions and including learned theologians; and, with the exception of a few, all of them expressed themselves in favour of the Congress. Had participation in the movement been contrary to the tenets of Islam these gentlemen, especially the *Ulemas*, would never have expressed the opinion they did. Equally unfounded is the impression that to join the Congress is to assume a hostile attitude towards Government. The body in question is composed of the ablest Native politicians, statesmen and lawyers and other enlightened and patriotic gentlemen, and it cannot

Muhammadans and the National Congress.

be said for a moment that they speak against Government. Those who can manage Native States, whose ability even Government has acknowledged by conferring on them high posts and titles, who are taken into the Imperial Council to advise Government, whose opinions are invited on affairs of State, and who enjoy the confidence of both the authorities and the people, can never deliver seditious speeches in the Congress *pandal*. Indeed, were this not so, Government would not have kept silent for the last twenty years, nor would Members of Parliament have taken part in the deliberations of the Congress. But does it constitute sedition on the part of the people to make known their wants to, and ask their rights of, Government? Do Muhammadans ask nothing of Government? Did not the late Sir Syad Ahmad Khan do so? and did he not establish an Association to demand his co-religionists' rights of Government? Again, have not the Nawab Vikar-ul-Mulk and Nawabzada Nasrulla Khan recently formed similar societies in the United Provinces and the Bombay Presidency respectively? And if all these gentlemen cannot be charged with sedition, why should an exception be made in the case of the supporters of the Congress?

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Kabul Mission.

6. The *Wafadar* (Lahore), of 8th December 1904, remarks that the Mission which has recently been sent to Kabul will be certain to renew friendly relations and remove all political complications between Afghanistan and India. The sinister rumours set afloat by some misguided persons in connection with the Mission are wholly unfounded.

Europeans and the Public Service of Afghanistan.

7. The *Zamindar* (Karamabad), of the 1st December 1904, publishes a communication from one Muhammad Idris of Thana, who states that Government has lent the Amir the services of two European Medical Officers, and remarks that the introduction of the European element into the public service of Afghanistan is calculated, not only to cement friendly relations between the Indian and the Afghan Governments, but to act as a civilising factor, so far as the Afghans are concerned. There is, however, also a dark side to the picture. The great majority of the people of Afghanistan being steeped in ignorance and bigotry, they cannot be expected to entertain a friendly regard for foreigners. It is, therefore, a very risky business to import Europeans among them, especially when they consider murdering the former a meritorious deed. Again, it is possible that the Amir's European officials may find it difficult to pull with His Highness, and this may create estrangement between him and the Government of India. In these circumstances the writer is of opinion that Native, especially Muhammadan, doctors with a European training should have been sent to Kabul instead. But what is better still, the Amir should send a few Afghan youths to England every year to study the various professions there.

Sardar Inayatulla Khan's visit to India.

8. The *Panja-i-Faulad* (Lahore), of the 14th December 1904, says that although 16 years of age, Sardar Inayatulla Khan is said to be fully capable of being entrusted with tasks even of the greatest responsibility. In

all probability he has, like his uncle, Nasrulla Khan, who visited India in the time of the late Amir Abdur Rahman Khan, received special instructions which he must follow during his sojourn in this country. This, adds the Editor, will be the first time that an heir-apparent to the throne of Kabul visits India, and it is to be hoped that the incident will have the effect of cementing friendly relations between Afghanistan and the Government of India.

V.—Native Societies and Religious Matters.

Christianity, the "Devastator of the World."

9. The *Arya Gazette* (Lahore), of the 8th December 1904, remarks that it is customary to talk of Islam as the "Devastator of the World", and that Christian Europe in particular has regarded that religion with contempt for centuries past. A comparison between the Prophet's faith and Christianity will, however, convince every one that it is the latter religion which is engaged in the "Devastation of the World." What has, for instance, become of the aboriginal inhabitants of New Zealand, the Fiji Islands, &c.? Is it not Christianity which has effaced them, one after another, from the face of the earth? The same process is in operation in North and South Africa, as also in Asia, although on a lesser scale. After referring to the harrowing consequences of the Crusades and of the persecution of different Christian sects by one another, the *Arya Gazette* observes that the advent of the preachers of the Bible in a country is soon followed by the arrival of guns, and in course of time the natives disappear. It adds that the teachings of Christianity have degraded the morals of mankind and killed off that simplicity of spirit which should be the essence of every religion. In conclusion, it says that if the Christian powers of Europe succeed in partitioning Asia they will be certain to treat Asiatics as they have treated the aborigines of other continents.

VII.—General Administration.

(*d*)—*Education.*

The Educational Policy of Government.

10. The *Vakil* (Amritsar), of the 7th December 1904, observes that the reconstitution of the Senates of the various Universities is being adversely criticised by Congress newspapers throughout the country, but that theirs is a veritable cry in the wilderness. The speech delivered by Lord Curzon on the subject in 1903 left no room for doubt that Government was bent on bringing the Universities under its control, a fact which has recently been made manifest by Government servants having been given the predominance in the administration of Indian Universities. In a word, the educational policy of Government has undergone a change for the worse, and the fears entertained by the opponents of the Universities Act are certain to prove true. The *Vakil* has, however, no doubt that the present attitude of the authorities towards College education is foredoomed to failure. It is, it adds, opposed to the spirit of the times and must collapse sooner or later. The *Vakil*, therefore, advises its contemporaries to keep silent and tolerate the change with the best grace they can, never forgetting that it cannot last long. The Universities shall again be free from official control, and the tide of progress, stemmed for the time being, will once again flow on, and that with greater force than has ever been the case before.

(*h*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Assessment of Income Tax in India.

11. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 15th December 1904, remarks that, in honour of the King-Emperor's Coronation, the Government of India was pleased to raise the minimum assessable income to Rs. 1,000 a year. It is, however, to be regretted that high-handedness on the part of officials of their own nationality has so far prevented the people from fully profiting by the concession. The complaint is universal in all parts of the country that assessing officers have been doing their utmost to defeat the object Government had in view in making the concession, their constant endeavour being to include those whose incomes were formerly assessed at Rs. 500 a year. These officials are under the mistaken impression that the only way for them to deserve the commendation of their superiors is to effect an increase in assessments, whatever hardship this may entail on the people, and however objectionable methods may have to be resorted to in the attainment of the end. Again, some of them take advantage of their official position to levy income tax from those whom they may bear a grudge or who may refuse to bribe them. It is, therefore, gratifying to learn that the Government of India has issued a circular letter calling attention to the evil and asking the Local Governments to put it down. After publishing the substance of the communication, the *Paisa Akhbar* expresses the hope that Provincial rulers will issue the necessary instructions to assessing officers.

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[Confidential.]

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No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	ENGLISH.			
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
1	Tribune ...	Lahore ...	Mul Chand ...	1,700 copies.
	BI-WEEKLY.			
2	Observer ...	Lahore ...	Abdul Rashid ...	1,000 ,,
3	Punjab Times ...	Rawalpindi ...	Narain Das ...	250 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
4	Arya Messenger ...	Lahore ...	Arya Samaj, Anarkali ...	700 copies.
5	Azad Khalsa ...	Do. ...	Lachman Singh ...	450 ,,
6	Punjab Chronicle ...	Multan ...	M. Baksi & Sons ...	200
	MONTHLY.			
7	Khalsa Advocate ...	Amritsar ...	Khalsa Advocate Committee.	1,000 ,,
	URDU.			
	DAILY.			
8	Akhbar-i-'Am ...	Lahore ...	Govind Sahai ...	2,000 ,,
9	Paisa Akhbar ...	Do. ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	700 ,,
10	Victoria Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Gian Chand ...	200 ,,
	TRI-WEEKLY.			
11	Vakil ...	Amritsar ...	Ghulam Muhammad ...	1,100 ,,
	BI-WEEKLY.			
12	Punjab Samachar ...	Lahore ...	Hira Lal ...	2,000 ,,
	WEEKLY.			
13	Alhakam ...	Kadian, Gurdaspur District.	Yakub Ali ...	350 ,,
14	Army News ...	Ludhiana ...	Hira Lal & Co. ...	1,000 ,,
15	Arya Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Atma Ram ...	550 ,,
16	Bharat ...	Sialkot ...	Sundar Lal ...	250 ,,
17	Chaudhwin Sadi ...	Rawalpindi ...	Siraj-ud-din Ahmad ...	700 ,,

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1904—CONTINUED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
	URDU—CONTINUED.			
	WEEKLY—*continued.*			
18	Civil and Military News ...	Ludhiana ...	Ghulam Mohai-ud-din ...	1,250 copies.
19	Curzon Gazette ...	Delhi ...	Mirza Hairat ...	3,000 ,,
20	Doaba ...	Hoshiarpur ...	Hari Lal, Sharma ...	200 ,,
21	Dost-i-Hind ...	Bhera, Shahpur District	Ram Labhaya ...	400 ,,
22	Gulzar-i-Hind ...	Lahore ...	Gulzar Muhammad ...	1,200 ,,
23	Hamdard-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Kishen Chand & Co. ...	1,200 ,,
24	Hitkari ...	Amritsar ...	Somraj Sharma ...	1,000 ,,
25	Kapurthala Akhbar ...	Kapurthala ...	Hamid Husain ...	150 ,,
26	Khair Khah-i-Alam ...	Delhi ...	Mir Hassan ...	80 ,,
27	Khair Khah-i-Hind and Rekhta Akhbar.	Do. ...	Maha Narain ...	100 ,,
28	Koh-i-Nur ...	Lahore ...	Ilahi Bakhsh ...	80 ,,
29	Lahore Punch ...	Do. ...	Abdul Rahman ...	200 ,,
30	Mr. Gazette ...	Do. ...	Ali Bakhsh ...	150 ,,
31	Nur Afshan ...	Ludhiana ...	M. Wylie ...	500 ,,
32	Nusrat ...	Delhi ...	Syad Nusrat Ali ...	200 ,,
33	Paisa Akhbar ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub 'Alam ...	13,500 ,,
34	Patiala Akhbar ...	Patiala ...	Syad Rajab Ali Shah ...	300 ,,
35	Police Advocate ...	Lahore ...	Bishen Singh ...	1,000 ,,
36	Public Magazine ...	Amritsar ...	Harji Ram ...	600 ,,
37	Punjab Organ ...	Sialkot ...	Brij Lal ...	300 ,,

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS RECEIVED DURING THE QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER 1904—CONCLUDED.

No.	Name.	Locality.	Name of Publisher.	Circulation.
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	WEEKLY—*concluded.*			
38	Panja-i-Faulad ...	Lahore ...	Muhammad Din ...	750 copies.
39	Railway Engineering News ...	Jullundur ...	Kishen Dial ...	300 "
40	Review ...	Lahore ...	Mahbub Beg, B A. ...	200 "
41	Sada-i-Hind ...	Do. ...	Din Muhammad ...	500 "
42	Sadiq-ul-Akhbar ...	Bahawalpur ...	Maulvi Ata Ula ...	366 "
43	Do. ...	Rewari ...	Maqbul Husain ...	700 "
44	Sanatan Dharm Gazette ...	Lahore ...	Pandit Hari Kishen ...	600 "
45	Sat Dharm Parcharak ...	Jullundur ...	Munshi Ram ...	1,005 "
46	Sialkot Paper ...	Sialkot ...	Todar Mal ...	500 "
47	Siraj-ul-Akhbar ...	Jhelum ...	Maulvi Fakir Muhammad	500 "
48	Tahzib-i-Niswan ...	Lahore ...	Mir Mumtaz Ali ...	240 "
49	Vakil-i-Hind ...	Delhi ...	Ahmad Mirza Khan ...	1,469 "
50	Wafadar ...	Lahore ...	Fazal-ud-din ...	500 "
51	Watan ...	Do. ...	Insha Alla ...	1,800 "
52	Zamindar ...	Karmabad, Gujranwala District.	Siraj-ud-din ...	800 "
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
53	Anwar-ul-Islam ...	Sialkot ...	Karim Bakhsh ...	900 "
	MONTHLY.			
54	Bharat Pertap ...	Jhajjar, Rohtak District	Bishambar Dayal, Sharma	250 "
55	Kakezai Social Reformer ...	Lahore ...	Central Kakezai Association, Lahore.	800 "
56	Sarin Sabha Journal ...	Hoshiarpur ...	Ganesh Das and Dev Raj	250 "
	HINDI.			
	FORTNIGHTLY.			
57	Punjab Theosophist ...	Lahore ...	Lal Man ...	300 "

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SELECTIONS

FROM THE

NATIVE NEWSPAPERS

PUBLISHED IN THE PUNJAB,

Received up to 31st December 1904.

I—POLITICS.

(*a*)—*Foreign.*

The Relations between England and Russia.

1. The *Watan* (Lahore), of the 16th December 1904, says that, as was recently remarked by a French Statesman, even if the tension of feeling between England and Russia caused by the North Sea outrage is removed, the relations between the two countries cannot be satisfactory till after the conclusion of the War in the Far East. England being Japan's ally she will never hesitate to perform her duty towards the latter, and there is consequently not the least likelihood of her and Russia shaking hands at present. It is, however, a matter of certainty that the Russo-Japanese War will be followed by firm friendship between the combatants, and that this will help to remove all possible misunderstanding between England and Russia.

The Russo-Japanese War.

2. The *Aryà Gazette* (Lahore), of the 15th December 1904, publishes an article from the pen of Lala Lajpat Rai, who, in continuation of his previous remarks (*vide* paragraph 2 of Selections No. 43), says that only forty years back the tiny island of Japan was not of much consequence even among Asiatic kingdoms, let alone its being reckoned among the civilised countries of the world. To-day, however, it absorbs the attention of the entire world, and the spirit of patriotism and rare gallantry displayed by its people in the war with Russia have raised feelings of fear in Europe. It is difficult to believe that it is puny Japan who has brought to the dust the colossal bear of which even the strongest country in the world was afraid. Europeans, who are highly civilised; who have degraded the peoples of other Continents, and who used, in their arrogance, to regard others as inferior human beings; who have been sucking the life-blood of weak, poor and ignorant nations and bringing the latter into their power by force or fraud; who were beginning to believe that the world and all it contains was made for them; who had come to believe that they were created by God to rule over the rest of mankind, are looking on the struggle with astonished eyes. The writer adds that what he would draw the particular

attention of his fellow-countrymen to are the high traits in the national character of the Japanese which the war in the Far East has brought into prominence. The most prominent of these characteristics is the intense patriotism of the Japanese, a patriotism for which there is no parallel in the history of the world. After referring to some episodes which point to the existence of this feeling amongst the ancient Kashatriyas and Rajputs, the writer observes that Japan has reminded Europe that there is a limit to high-handedness and that a time comes when even the worm will turn. She has also strengthened the conviction that God always fights on the side of those who take up arms in the defence of their rights.

The Sikhs in the Russian Military Service.

3. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), of the 20th December 1904, remarks that the employment of Sikhs by Russia in Manchuria is being viewed with great distrust by many Englishmen. It would, however, appear that the fears of the last-named are utterly unfounded. The simple fact is that some Sikhs have been admitted into the Russian Military Service, and from letters they write to their relations in the Punjab it appears that they are very pleased with their lot. Surely there is nothing in this to cause uneasiness in the minds of Englishmen, seeing that a very large number of the natives of India earn their livelihood in foreign countries. If, however, it is feared that on their return home these Sikhs will try to create among their countrymen a feeling of sympathy for Russia, the easiest way for the authorities to provide against this is to secure the attachment of the people by good government and solicitude for their welfare.

(*b*)—*Home.*

Lord Curzon.

4. The *Army News* (Ludhiana), of the 19th December 1904, remarks that the fact that Lord Curzon has been permitted to return to India goes to show that the Ministry thoroughly approves of his methods. It is very fortunate for him that the Conservative Government which appointed him is still in office; that the former Secretary of State for India was always glad to agree with him; that Lord George Hamilton's successor is, like the Prime Minister, a personal friend of his; and that the Liberal party lacks statesmen of the type of Bright, Gladstone, Fawcett, and others capable of rousing British public opinion against his Indian policy. He is, therefore, wholly free to do whatever he likes, there being no one to interfere with him; while he has obtained beforehand the consent of the India Council to the measures he intends introducing. His Excellency should, however, never forget that great powers carry with them great responsibilities. He has not only to look to the good of his Sovereign and Nation, but before God and man he is responsible for the welfare of the three hundred millions of human beings committed to his charge. He should remember that, like all human beings, he is liable to err, and should not disregard suggestions in the Press.

The same.

5. The *Gulzar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 17th December 1904, writing about Lord Curzon's return, says that it remains to be seen how India will fare during his second regime and what memorials he will leave behind in the

country. During the first term of his Viceroyalty he made two or three concessions in favour of the people, but neutralised these by hampering the Native Press and the education of the people. It is, however, no use dwelling on things of the past, and the people should hope for better things from His Excellency in future.

Lord Ampthill.

6. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 19th December 1904, remarks that during the nine months he sat on the Viceregal *Gaddi*, Lord Ampthill was merely the Assistant of Lord Curzon, enjoyed very little freedom of action, and had only to carry on the administration on indicated lines. His predecessor, who is so fond of power that he resumed charge of the Viceroy's Office at Bombay by telegraph, was not likely to give him a free hand. Lord Ampthill's was therefore a very delicate position; he had to follow in the footsteps of Lord Curzon and disregard his own inclinations in every matter. Nevertheless it will be unfair to look upon him as a mere figure-head. He had, owing to Lord Curzon's prolonged stay in England, to do several things which it was intended were to be done by the latter himself. The duties of the Viceroy are of a very onerous and delicate character, and it is no small thing that Lord Ampthill should have committed no mistakes during his term of office. The most important event of his Viceroyalty was the despatch of the Tibet Mission, which, but for his moderation and peaceful intentions, would have led to disastrous consequences. He had only this one occasion to display his far-sightedness, and he did not allow himself to be found wanting. It is true that the money spent on the Mission has been thrown away, but the blame for this rests with Lord Curzon. In conclusion, the *Paisa Akhbar* remarks that Lord Ampthill's politeness and good manners have won him the esteem even of those who have not seen him, and that it is the earnest desire of all classes of the people that he may succeed Lord Curzon.

Government Service and the Natives of India.

7. The *Punjabi* (Lahore), of the 19th December 1904, writes—

"All around us we see increasing attempts made by responsible authorities to shut out the children of the soil even from the subordinate appointments in the Public Services; and even the Government of India has been issuing secret orders to appoint Europeans to posts carrying more than 50 rupees on Government Railways. Not long ago a Head Clerk on Rs. 100 was wanted by one of the Departments in the Bombay Secretariat, and in the advertisement calling applications from suitable candidates for the post the responsible officer stated in unequivocal terms that only Europeans should apply, applications from others besides Europeans not being considered. The salaries and emoluments of European officers in every Department of State are being increased *en bloc* one after another, without any the least consideration for the Indians serving in such Departments,—Indian Medical Service, Telegraph, Customs, Public Works Examiner's, and lastly Opium. Europeans in all these Departments have had their turn at the plentiful helping from the Treasury to which the Government invited them, and they have helped themselves and are helping to their hearts' content. And all this loot, Lord Curzon asks us to believe, is not carried on from any selfish, sordid or purely materialistic points of view. It may be so, but all the same it passes our understanding."

II.—Afghanistan and Trans-Frontier.

The Kabul Mission.

8. One Ghazanfar Ali, B. A., writing to the *Akhbar-i-'Am* (Lahore), of the 17th December 1904, observes that Mr. Dane's Mission should propose nothing to the Amir incompatible with the growth and permanence of

His Highness' dominions. If Habibulla Khan comes to entertain the least suspicion that the Mission merely wishes to play a diplomatic game it will be certain to prove a failure. As regards the Ruler of Kabul, his best interests lie in cementing his friendship with the Government of India and thereby ensuring his reigning in peace. And he appears to be fully alive to this, as is evident from his having invited the Mission and sent his eldest son to meet Lord Curzon. The writer further remarks that the fact of the Amir having lately imported large quantities of arms and ammunition would show that His Highness suspects danger from some quarter. It is doubtful whether his fears have reference to the Government of India, but it is highly probable that he is very suspicious of Russia. Russia may have her hands full in the Far East, but she is not unmindful of extending and strengthening her possessions in Central Asia. The construction of a railway between Orenburg and Tashkent has greatly facilitated the attainment of this object, and rendered her position in Central Asia far more secure than it was formerly. In all probability, therefore, it is Russia whom the Amir fears and against whom the aforesaid munitions of war are intended to be used.

The same.

9. The *Paisa Akhbar* (Lahore), of the 21st December 1904, writing about the reception accorded to the Mission at Kabul, says that the fact of the Amir having assured Mr. Dane and his colleagues that His Highness' foreign policy was the same as his father's affords strong proof of his good faith and gives hope of the Mission proving a success. In case, however, the Mission makes certain objectionable proposals, which British newspapers, being under the impression that Russia is to invade India in the coming spring, expect it to make, it will find its task beset with formidable difficulties.

Sardar Inayatulla Khan's visit to Lord Curzon.

10. The *Gulsar-i-Hind* (Lahore), of the 17th December 1904, says that some people are of opinion that the Amir has sent his eldest son to India to request the Viceroy to resign Peshawar to Afghanistan. Some, again, hold the view that the object of Sardar Inayatulla Khan's visit is to secure an increase of the subsidy paid to his father. The real fact, however, is that the Sardar has been sent for the sole purpose of strengthening the connection between India and Afghanistan, and suggesting the adoption of practical measures to check Russia's advance towards this country.

VI.—LEGISLATION.

The Pre-emption Bill.

11. The *Sialkot Paper* (Sialkot), of the 16th December 1904, remarks that non-agriculturists in the Punjab are already prohibited from buying agricultural land except with the permission of Deputy Commissioners. The Bill to amend the Law relating to Pre-emption in the Punjab recently introduced in the Local Legislative Council is, however, calculated to make matters still worse for them, inasmuch as it deprives them even of a right of pre-emption in respect of lands of the above description. It will be highly unjust to pass a law like this, because it will not only take away from non-agriculturists a right which they have been enjoying for a long time, but will make it possible for agriculturists to greatly inconvenience and injure

their non-agricultural neighbours by alienating the properties concerned to the enemies of the last-named. The Editor would, therefore, suggest that if the Council can do nothing more for non-agriculturists it should allow them to exercise a right of pre-emption on agricultural land with the permission of Deputy Commissioners. He is further of opinion that clause (2) of Section 13 relating to pre-emption in shops and structures thereon should also be amended. If it is passed into law in its present form, shops will, in future, have to be bought by neighbours at exorbitant prices to prevent their being sold to undesirable persons. For instance, suppose *A*, a Bhabra, owns and keeps a shop, an adjoining shop being the property of another person, *B*. The latter shop is worth Rs. 500 at the utmost, but *B* threatens to sell it to a meat-seller in case *A* does not buy it for double the amount. Will not *A*, whose religion teaches him to abhor the very sight of meat, have to buy *B's* shop for Rs. 1,000, or sell his own shop and settle in some other? Another evil to which the clause is likely to lead is that where co-sharers in a shop refuse to sell their shares to one another, strangers will step in and partition the shop.

VII.—General Administration.

(*b*)—*Police.*

The Report of the Police Commission.

12. The *Police Advocate* (Lahore), of the 16th December 1904, remarks that, although the Police Commission was appointed more than two years ago, the report submitted by it has not been made public yet. The most important question the Commission had to decide was whether in order to reform the Police an addition should be made to the number of European Officers of the Force or to that of the Natives. The summary of the Commission's Report published by the *Times* in April last does not, however, furnish a satisfactory answer to the question. Nevertheless, the general public is of opinion that whatever the recommendation on the point may be Lord Curzon will be certain to think more of the interests of his fellow-countrymen than of the children of the soil.

(*k*)—*Miscellaneous.*

The Ill-treatment of Patients in Government Hospitals.

13. The *Punjab Samachar* (Lahore), dated 20th December 1904, publishes a communication in which the writer alleges that mutton, milk, rice and other eatables supplied for patients in Government Hospitals in the Punjab are, in the majority of cases, appropriated by Assistant Surgeons and only dry bread and pulse are served to the sick. The result is that life in a hospital has come to be regarded by the public as worse than jail life. To add to the difficulties of patients, Hospital Assistants and Compounders treat them in a most inconsiderate manner. Again, the menial servants employed in hospitals are made to do the private work of Assistant Surgeons and cannot consequently minister to the wants of the sick.

Punjab Government Press, Lahore—9-1-05—70